

Washington State
**Juvenile
Justice
Report
2004**

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YouthCare Residential TREC Services, Seattle, WA

Mentoring Expansion Project for Cowlitz County, Vancouver, WA

Pathways Back Program, Walla Walla, WA

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THE FEDERAL JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT (Reauthorized in 2002)

The JJDP Act provides a block grant program to the states, based on their juvenile population under age 18.

Washington's Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee was created in 1982, to respond to the provisions of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act.

The JJDP Act of 1974 established a single federal agency to address juvenile delinquency, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), in the U.S. Department of Justice. In 2002, H.R. 2215, the 21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act was passed (Public Law 107-273). This act included the **Reauthorization of the JJDP Act**.

The JJDP Act provides a block grant program to the states, based on their juvenile population under age 18. The OJJDP awards the appropriated funds to the 50 states, five territories, and the District of Columbia. In order to be eligible to receive JJDP Act Title II (Formula and Challenge Activities) grant funds, and Title V (Community Prevention) grant funds, states are required to:

- Designate a state agency to prepare and administer the State's comprehensive 3-year juvenile justice and delinquency prevention plan (*in Washington, this is the Department of Social and Health Services*);
- Establish a "State Advisory Group," appointed by the Chief Executive, to provide policy direction and participate in the preparation and administration of the Formula Grants Program plan (*in Washington, this is the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee*); and
- Commit to achieve and maintain compliance with the four core requirements of the JJDP Act, as follows.

The core requirements of the JJDP Act are:

- Remove non-offending youth (such as a dependent or neglected child) and status offenders (such as a runaway or truant) from locked facilities. (*Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders, or DSO*)
- Eliminate the confinement of juveniles in adult jails and lockups. (*Jail Removal*)
- Ensure complete sight and sound separation of juveniles from adult offenders in jails and lockups, when they are held. (*Separation*)
- Address juvenile delinquency prevention and system improvement efforts designed to reduce the disproportionate number of juvenile members of minority groups who come into contact with the juvenile justice system. (*Disproportionate Minority Contact, or DMC*)

Washington State is in compliance with three of the four core requirements (Jail Removal, Separation, and DMC) of the JJDP Act.

THE FEDERAL JJDP ACT (continued)

The State's Juvenile Justice law (RCW 13.04.116) prohibits holding juveniles in adult jails and lockups.

As a result of Washington's At-Risk and Runaway Youth Act of 1995 (RCW 13.32A, known as the "Becca Law") that allows runaway youth to be held in a secure facility for up to five days, OJJDP determined **Washington's state law and practice are out of compliance** with the deinstitutionalization of status offenders (DSO) core requirement of the federal JJDP Act.

As a consequence of being out of compliance, OJJDP reduced Washington's FFY 2000 through 2003 federal Formula grant funds by 25 percent, and will reduce the FFY 2005 federal Formula Grant allocation by 20 percent.¹ The State was required to spend the remaining 75 percent of the federal block grant funds on policies and programs that would help to bring the state into full compliance with the requirement for DSO, and on maintaining compliance with the other three core requirements of the federal JJDP Act.

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WHAT THE GJJAC DOES

The Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (GJJAC) was established as a response to the JJDP Act in 1982, by Executive Order.

The Governor appoints GJJAC members to serve a three-year term, and may re-appoint members for a second term. Members are juvenile justice professionals and knowledgeable private citizens, who represent all sectors of the juvenile justice system and all geographical areas of the state.

The vision of the GJJAC is a future in which all youth of Washington State are nurtured, healthy, safe, educated and contributing to their communities.

The mission of the GJJAC is to ***promote partnerships and innovations that improve outcomes for juvenile offenders and their victims, to build family and community capacity to prevent delinquency, and to provide analysis and expertise to state and local policymakers.*** To carry out its mission, the GJJAC:

- **Creates and implements Washington State's annual juvenile justice plan**, which sets priorities for awarding federal and state funds.

¹ The 2002 amendment of the JJDP Act allowed Washington State to receive the full award amount for FFY 2004. For FFY 05, Washington was notified that the state's Formula Grant allocation will be reduced by 20 percent as the state was again found out of compliance with the DSO requirement, and must spend 50 percent of its remaining funds on efforts to achieve compliance.

WHAT THE GJJAC DOES (continued)

R equires an independent, objective evaluation for each GJJAC-funded demonstration project.

A dministers the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) in Washington State.

- **Monitors secure facilities that hold juveniles for compliance with the JJDP Act** (adult jails and lockups, local juvenile detention centers, state training schools (JRA institutions), and secure crisis residential centers).
- **Advises the Governor, the Legislature, and Washington's citizens about juvenile justice issues.** One way the GJJAC advises is through its annual report that presents current juvenile justice data and problems, and describes how funds are awarded. You are reading the GJJAC's **2004 Juvenile Justice Report**, based on the annual juvenile justice plan that was submitted to the federal OJJDP. The GJJAC also advises by taking positions on bills and budget issues, and through providing testimony or position statements to the Governor and the Legislature.
- **Awards both federal and state juvenile justice funds** to demonstration projects that are selected by a competitive process. There are programs under two Titles of the JJDP Act, one Bureau of Justice Assistance program, and a state-funded juvenile violence prevention program.
- **Requires an independent, objective evaluation** for each GJJAC-funded demonstration project (26 projects were independently evaluated in SFY 2005). The GJJAC requires use of the Logic Model for project evaluations. The Logic Model provides an outcome-based evaluation approach.
- **Funds research, technical assistance, and training** projects to improve the juvenile justice system and respond to the individual needs of communities. Three multi-site evaluations were conducted in SFY 2005.
- **Funds local juvenile justice planning units** (Regional Program Development Units) to improve coordination of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention activities in their respective regions, facilitate information-sharing among youth serving agencies, avoid duplication of services, and act as a resource to the GJJAC.
- **Administers the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)** in Washington State. The Annie E. Casey Foundation awarded Washington State a grant to replicate the JDAI.

GJJAC staff members are located in the **Office of Juvenile Justice**, within Management Services Administration in the Department of Social and Health Services, and are responsible for planning and administering all functions and activities of the GJJAC.

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GJJAC FUNDING SOURCES

GJJAC awards funds from four federal programs, one state program, and one private foundation to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system.

1. **JJDP Act Title II Formula Grants Program.** In 2004, the GJJAC received a block grant award of \$1,298,069, including funding for:
 - Demonstration projects that address the priority program area(s) selected annually by the GJJAC.
 - Technical assistance, training, and research projects to improve the juvenile justice system.
 - Monitoring of the state's adult jails and lockups, secure CRCs, and JRA institutions for compliance with the federal JJDP Act.
 - American Indian Pass-Through amount.
 - County/regional juvenile justice planning units—called "*Regional Program Development Units*"—to coordinate local delinquency prevention efforts, provide for collaboration among youth-serving agencies, and to make local juvenile justice system improvements.
2. **JJDP Act Title II Challenge Grants Program.** The final year of allocations to the states for this grant program was FFY 2003. In the 2002 Reauthorization of the federal JJDP Act, the Challenge Grants Program was subsumed by a new federal grant program, the "*Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Block Grant*." This new block grant program consolidates the following programs into one funding stream: State Challenge Grants; Mentoring Programs; Gang-Free Schools and Communities and Community-Based Gang Intervention; and Treatment of Juvenile Offenders Who are Victims of Child Abuse. To be eligible to receive funds under this new federal block grant program, states must also be participating in the Title II Formula Grants Program. These block grant funds have not yet been appropriated.
3. **JJDP Act Title V Community Prevention Program.** The federal OJJDP did not make any block grant awards to the states in FFY 2003 for the Title V Program. In January 2004, OJJDP announced that block grant awards would be made to the states for FFY 04—Washington received an award of \$290,000. The GJJAC issued an RFP for this grant program in January 2005, which could fund three community prevention projects beginning July 2005. The purpose of the funds is to develop and implement local comprehensive and coordinated approaches to delinquency prevention that utilize research-based best practices.

**GJJAC
FUNDING
SOURCES
(continued)**

4. **Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Byrne Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Program.** In 2004, the GJJAC received \$880,422 to administer the Youth Violence Prevention & Intervention Grant Program, and awarded funds to local research-based demonstration projects designed to prevent or intervene in youth violence. The state's 1999 budget act transferred these funds from the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) to DSHS, to be administered by the GJJAC.
5. **State-funded Juvenile Violence Prevention Grant Program.** In 2004, the GJJAC received \$900,000, and awarded funds to assist communities in implementing research-based demonstration projects to prevent delinquency. The state's 1999 budget act established this grant program to assist communities in preventing juvenile violence and crime. The GJJAC was specified to administer the Program.
6. **Annie E. Casey Foundation Grant for the JDAI.** In 2004, the GJJAC received a \$200,000 grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation to implement and replicate the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) in Washington State. The Annie E. Casey Foundation established the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) in 1992 to demonstrate that jurisdictions can establish more effective and efficient systems to accomplish the purposes of juvenile detention. The objectives of JDAI are to reduce the number of children unnecessarily or inappropriately detained; to minimize the number of youth who fail to appear in court or re-offend pending adjudication; to redirect public funds toward successful reform strategies; and to improve conditions of confinement.

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SUMMARY OF DATA

A pproximately one-half of the total juvenile population lives in just three counties...

This annual report presents statistics for juvenile risk factors that may affect juvenile delinquency, juvenile crime data, as well as demographic data for youth in Washington State.

Juvenile Population (2003 Estimates)

- Juveniles make up **25 percent** of the total state population, or 1.5 million. *(This is a 7 percent increase from 1994.)*
- Approximately one-half of the total juvenile population lives in just three counties—King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties.
- Children age 0-9 years old make up the largest age cohort, over half (53%) of the total. *(This age cohort decreased slightly (less than one percent) from 1994.)*
- Youth age 10-17 is the cohort most likely to be involved in juvenile delinquency. *(This age cohort increased by 17 percent from 1994.)*
- Male youth represented slightly over one-half (51%) of the juvenile population, with females representing 49 percent of 0-17 year olds.

Minority Population (2002 Estimates)

- **Minority** youth make up approximately **27 percent** of the state's juvenile population. *(This is a 41 percent increase from 1993.)*
- **Twelve percent** of Washington's juvenile population is of **Hispanic or Latino origin**. There has been a 66 percent increase in the percentage of Hispanic youth in our state from 1993 to 2002.
- Minority youth comprise **almost 50 percent** of the juvenile populations in **three counties**—Franklin, Adams, and Yakima.
- **Youth of color are over-represented** in juvenile court offense referrals and incarceration (juvenile detention facilities and JRA); and Black and American Indian youth are over-represented in juvenile arrests when compared to their respective percentage of the juvenile population.

Juveniles Living in Poverty

- The Office of Financial Management estimates that the **poverty rate** among Washington's children was **19.0 percent** in 2004 *(2004 Washington State Population Survey Results)*.
- The **Winter 2003 State of Washington's Children** report states that "almost half (45%) of **rural Washington children** live in families whose income is inadequate to meet their basic needs without assistance," and "almost 1 in 4 rural children under age five live below the federal poverty line, compared to only about 1 in 7 children under age five living in an urban area."

SUMMARY OF DATA (continued)

- The percentage of TANF recipients was approximately two times the statewide average in Adams, Franklin, and Yakima counties.
- Data provided by SPI showing the total number of applications received by public schools for free and reduced price meals (to participate in the National School Lunch Program and the National School Breakfast Program) has increased by three percent from the 2003-04 school year to the 2004-05 school year.

School Enrollment and Dropouts

- **Over one million students** were enrolled in Washington's schools in the 2003 school year. *(This is an eight percent increase from 1994 to 2003.)*
- Dropout statistics show the estimated **cumulative** (4-year) **dropout rate** for the class of 2003 was **24 percent**. The annual dropout rate during school year 2002-03 was reported to be 6.7%—one percent below the 2001-02 annual dropout rate (7.7%).
- **Minority youth** represented approximately **29 percent** of the public school enrollment in 2004. *(This is a 32 percent increase from 1995 to 2004).*
- **Asian/Pacific Islander students** had the **lowest annual dropout rate** (4.9%), while **American Indian** students had the **highest annual dropout rate** (14.6%) in school year 2002-03.

Child Abuse Referrals

- In 2004, 78,336 children were referred to Child Protective Services. *(This is a five percent increase in the number of children referred from 1995 to 2004.)*

Adolescent Pregnancy and Childbearing

- Washington's teen pregnancy rate for females **age 15-17** was 28.8 per 1,000 in 2003. *(This is a 45 percent decrease from 1994 to 2003.)*
- The teen birth rate has also continued to decline nationally—for females **age 15-19**, the 2003 rate of 41.7 births per 1,000 teens was 33% lower than the 1991 peak rate of 61.8 per 1,000 females age 15-19 (according to data from the National Center for Health Statistics reported by Child Trends, March 2005.)

SUMMARY OF DATA (continued)

Female youth represented more than two-thirds (69%) of the CHINS filings; over one-half (55%) of the ARY filings; and almost one-half (47%) of the Truancy filings in 2003.

Mental Health

- Data provided by the Washington State Institute for Public Policy shows that 24 percent of the youth on probation in 2001 who were assessed using the Washington State Juvenile Court Pre-Screen Risk Assessment had been diagnosed with a mental health problem (diagnosis, medication or treatment).
- In 2005, the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA) reports that **64 percent** of youth in JRA residential care have significant mental health issues, and **81 percent** are chemically dependent.

Truancy, ARY and CHINS Petitions

- Due to the change in state law, **truancy** petition filings have significantly increased—from 2,203 filings in 1995, when the Becca Law was passed, to 12,573 in 2003. *(This is a 471 percent increase from 1995 to 2003.)*
- **At-Risk Youth (ARY)** petition filings have increased from 749 filings in 1995, to 2,049 in 2003. *(This is a 174 percent increase from 1995 to 2003.)*
- **Children in Need of Supervision (CHINS)** petitions increased from 221 in 1995 to 422 in 2003. *(This is a 91 percent increase from 1995.)*
- **Female youth** represented more than two-thirds (69%) of the **CHINS** filings; over one-half (55%) of the **ARY** filings; and almost one-half (47%) of the **Truancy** filings in 2003.
- More **females** than males are held in **Secure** Crisis Residential Centers (62.5 percent were females in SFY '02).
- There were over 4,200 **admissions² of status offenders** to **juvenile detention facilities** in 2003 for violations of a court order/proceeding related to a status offense (contempt of court); **almost one-half (49 percent) were girls**. *(This is an almost 900 percent increase in admissions related to a status offense from 1995 to 2003.)*

Juvenile Arrests in 2003

- There were **38,365 juvenile arrests, for an arrest rate of 54.0 per 1,000** youth age 10-17 in 2003. *(This is a 43 percent decrease from 1994, and is one of the lowest reported rates in the past 20 years.)*

² Admissions with a detention stay of over 4 hours in duration.

SUMMARY OF
DATA
(continued)

- There were **1,513 violent** offense arrests, for a violent offense arrest rate of **2.1 per 1,000** youth age 10-17. *(This is a 54 percent **decrease** from 1994—the 2002 and 2003 rates of 2.1 per 1,000 youth for violent crimes were the lowest reported since prior to 1982.)*
- There were **15,711 property** crime arrests, for an arrest rate of **22.1 per 1,000** youth age 10-17. *(This is a 57 percent **decrease** from 1994, and is the lowest rate reported since prior to 1985.)*
- There were **8,173 drug and alcohol** arrests, for an arrest rate of **11.5 per 1,000** youth age 10-17. *(This is a 5 percent **increase** in the rate from 1994.)*
- There were **342 sex offense** arrests, for an arrest rate of **0.5 per 1,000** youth age 10-17. *(This cannot be compared to 1994 due to changes in reporting.)*
- **Females** accounted for approximately **29 percent** of all 2003 juvenile arrests. *(This is an **increase** of 12 percent from 1994.)*
- **Youth of color** accounted for approximately **15 percent** of all 2003 juvenile arrests. *(No change from the percentage of total arrests in 1994.)*

Juvenile Court Offense Referrals in 2003

- **Females** accounted for **30 percent** of all 2003 juvenile court offense referrals (no change from 2002 to 2003).
- **Youth of color** accounted for **29 percent** of all 2003 juvenile court offense referrals (a one percent increase from 2002 to 2003).
- Offense referrals for Black youth are two times their proportion of the juvenile population.

Juvenile Court Case Referrals and Results in 2003

- There were **44,458 cases referred** to county prosecutors in 2003. *(This is a 14.6 percent decrease from 1999 to 2003.)*
- **38 percent** of the cases were referred to diversion, 38 percent of the cases had charges filed, and no action was taken on 22 percent. *(Relatively unchanged from 1999-2003.)*
- Males are referred to the prosecutor at a higher rate than females (77% involve males). Cases involving females are referred to diversion at a higher rate than males 48% for females and 33 % for males.

SUMMARY OF
DATA
(continued)

Juvenile Admissions to Detention in 2003

- There were 32,438 admissions to local **juvenile detention facilities** in 2003. *(This is an increase of 38 percent from 1994 to 2003)*
- **Females** represented approximately **29 percent** of juveniles held in county detention facilities. *(This is an increase of 54 percent from 1994.)*
- **Minority youth** represented **33 percent** of juveniles held in county detention facilities. *(This is a decrease of 6 percent from 1994.)*

Juveniles Sentenced to JRA in 2003

- **Seven percent (7%)** of all cases referred to juvenile court who plead or were found guilty were sentenced to the state **Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA)** in 2003. *(This figure continues a steady decline from the 1994 figure of 13 percent)*
- The average daily population (ADP) of juveniles in **all JRA residential programs** was 929 in 2004—there has been a steady decline in the ADP since 1997. *(This is a 33 percent decrease from 1997 when the ADP peaked at 1,394.)*
- The average daily population of juveniles in **JRA institutions** was 801 in 2004. *(This is a decrease of 23 percent from 1997 when the ADP peaked at 1,038.)*
- **Youth of color** represented approximately **45 percent** of juveniles held in JRA (average per month) in 2004. *(This is unchanged from 1997.)*
- **Females** represented approximately **8 percent** of juveniles held in JRA (average per month) in 2004. *(This is relatively unchanged from 1997.)*

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SUMMARY OF
PRIORITY
AREAS AND
PROGRAMS

The 2003 statewide juvenile arrest data continues to show one of the lowest rates since 1982. There were 38,365 arrests (54.0 arrests per 1,000) of juveniles age 10 – 17 during 2003. The arrest rate is an encouraging trend compared to the statewide juvenile arrest rate in the early 1990's when the rate reached as high as 94.9 arrests per 1,000 juveniles.

The GJJAC continues to encourage the implementation of prevention and intervention strategies that have a positive effect on reducing juvenile delinquency. Evaluation of GJJAC funded projects provide information about what works in the areas of effective prevention and intervention strategies with children, families, and at-risk and delinquent youth.

The GJJAC recommends to the Governor, Legislature and juvenile justice system, that Washington continue to apply proven, and promising, research-based prevention and intervention strategies in order to continue to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency, and improve the juvenile justice system.

During 2004-05, the following priority areas were addressed by the GJJAC.

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The GJJAC is concerned that many youth who have not committed a delinquent act are held in secure facilities. As a result of Washington's state law (RCW 13.32A) that allows runaway youth to be held in a Secure Crisis Residential Center (S-CRC) for up to five days, **Washington is out of compliance with one of the core requirements of the federal JJDP Act** (the deinstitutionalization of status offenders, or DSO).

**FEDERAL
JJDP ACT TITLE II
FORMULA GRANTS
PROGRAM**

**Runaways/Status
Offenders and
Non-Offenders
Priority Area**

For five years, the federal Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has found Washington State to be out of compliance with this requirement. As a result, OJJDP reduced the state's FFY 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003 Formula Grant awards by 25 percent, as provided in Section 223(C)(3)(A) of the JJDP Act. All remaining Formula Grant funds were to be used for policies and programs that will assist in bringing the state back into compliance with DSO, and on maintaining compliance with the other requirements of the federal JJDP Act.

The GJJAC is diligently working on strategies to bring the state back into compliance, address the problems related to runaway youth, and assist local jurisdictions in providing support and follow-up services to this population.

**FORMULA GRANTS
PROGRAM**

**Runaways/Status
Offenders and
Non-Offenders
Priority Area
(continued)**

The GJJAC awarded four grants for runaways/status offenders and non-offenders in 2002, that have received continuation grant funding for two additional years.

In the Spring of 2004, GJJAC contracted with Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish Counties to provide additional services for youth placed in two Secure CRCs--Snohomish County and Kitsap County (which also holds youth from Pierce County).

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**Community-Based
Restorative Responses to
Juvenile Crime and
Violence**

Studies of restorative justice programs have shown positive results, both nationally and within Washington State. The GJJAC selected Community-Based Restorative Responses to Juvenile Crime and Violence as an additional focus area for Title II Formula Grants funding in 2004. The **Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Model** supports a community's need to hold youthful offenders accountable for their actions to victims and provide meaningful consequences for offensive behavior, protect the community, enhance public safety, build offender skills and competencies, and offer opportunities for positive connections to community members.

Community Justice expands on the concept of restorative justice, and is more than an intervention program or practice. It is an integrated system for responding to juvenile offenders—one based on carefully balanced attention to community safety, victim restoration, offender accountability to the victim and the community, and offender rehabilitation within the community. A **Community Juvenile Justice Model** requires comprehensive and integrated strategies, to accomplish the following six tasks: Community Education and Mobilization, Juvenile Justice System Strengthening and Reform, Development of Crime Prevention Strategies, Offender Accountability, Victim Involvement and Reparation, and Pro-social Competencies in Juvenile Offenders. The principles of restorative justice are implemented in a wider community context. Activities typically defined as restorative justice are broadened.

The GJJAC is committed to continue to work to address the concerns of victims, garner greater public support for restorative approaches, develop resources for communities to implement community/restorative justice initiatives, incorporate restorative justice principles and practices in sentencing and parole plans (release plans should take into account victim concerns, offenders needs and accountability, and community involvement), and to reduce the rate of juvenile offending and violence.

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**FEDERAL
JJDP ACT TITLE II
CHALLENGE GRANT
PROGRAM**

**Challenge Activities
Funded in 2004**

The Challenge Grant program provides funds in one or more of 10 specific areas, through seed grants, for one year only. The final year of Challenge Grants Program block grant allocations to the states occurred in FFY 03.

Challenge activities selected by the GJJAC in 2003, to fund programs in 2004 (using FFY 03 grant funds) are:

1. Health/mental health and education services
2. Community-based alternatives to incarceration (with an emphasis on juvenile holdover-type programs), and
3. Alternatives to suspension and expulsion from school.

Two projects were funded and one workshop was held in 2003-04, and four projects were funded in 2004-05.

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**FEDERAL
JJDP ACT TITLE V
DELINQUENCY
PREVENTION
GRANT PROGRAM**

The **JJDP Act Title V Delinquency Prevention Grant Program** encourages local units of government (towns, cities, counties) or tribes to develop comprehensive, research-based delinquency prevention plans. To encourage collaboration, the program requires the formation of a Prevention Policy Board—a multidisciplinary community planning board.

The GJJAC recognizes the need to continue to support collaborative community efforts in order to prevent and reduce delinquency.

The GJJAC recommends communities work collaboratively to assess their need, and to develop and implement effective, research-based strategies to prevent juvenile delinquency.

In 2004, the GJJAC did not fund any Title V Community Delinquency Prevention Grants projects. The GJJAC released a Request for Proposal (RFP) early in 2005. It is anticipated that three or four communities will be selected as Title V grant recipients.

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**JUVENILE DETENTION
ALTERNATIVES
INITIATIVE (JDAI)**

In addition to providing technical assistance to jails and lockups in maintaining compliance with the DSO and Jail Removal requirements of the federal JJDP Act, the GJJAC will also continue to address the DSO and disproportionate minority contact (DMC) priority areas through Washington's **Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)**.

In July 2004 the GJJAC received a \$200,000 grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) to become a Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) replication site. Five counties participate as pilot sites to incorporate JDAI best practices in detention decisions, which will impact holding status offenders and non-offenders in secure confinement. The AECF grant is expected to continue for three years.

**FEDERAL BJA
BYRNE YOUTH
VIOLENCE
PREVENTION AND
INTERVENTION GRANT
PROGRAM**

The federal Bureau of Justice Assistance **Byrne Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Grant Program** provides funding for community-based youth violence prevention and intervention projects, based on a public health model of reducing risks, while enhancing protective or resiliency factors. The Byrne Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Grant Program is part of a larger Byrne block grant to the state.

Byrne Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention projects target “at-risk” youth, in accordance with a local community’s specific risk factors, associated with violent behavior. Byrne projects serve youth and families, including youth that may be involved with law enforcement and the courts. Projects may be funded for up to a maximum of four years. A multi-site evaluation, conducted by Ernst Stromsdorfer, Ph.D., of Rainier Research, in 2002, found decreased disciplinary referrals and improved social skills for youth involved in the projects.

The GJJAC recommends continued funding for effective, research-based prevention programs that reduce risk factors and enhance protective factors for at-risk youth.

In 2004-05, the GJJAC funded 10 Byrne Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Program projects, including a cross-site evaluation conducted by the TriWest Group.

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**STATE-FUNDED
JUVENILE VIOLENCE
PREVENTION GRANT
PROGRAM**

The state-funded **Juvenile Violence Prevention Grant Program** was established in the state budget act of 1999, to prevent the more expensive costs of arrest, referral, and incarceration of violent juvenile offenders. The program was established on the premise that it is less expensive to *prevent* violence than to *react* to it later. The Juvenile Violence Prevention Grant Program was reauthorized by the Legislature in 2001 and 2003. Outside, independent evaluations of the Juvenile Violence Prevention Grant projects funded by the GJJAC (1999-2003) have shown that the projects have been successful in improving pro-social and problem-solving behaviors and reducing violence.

GJJAC recommends the Governor and the Legislature continue state funding for the research-based Juvenile Violence Prevention Grant Program.

In 2004, the GJJAC awarded funds to nine projects. In addition, the GJJAC awarded funds to the TriWest Group to conduct a multi-site evaluation to assess the overall effectiveness of the prevention strategies implemented by the projects to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors that affect juvenile violence.

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***GJJAC
SECTION***

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GOVERNOR'S
JUVENILE
JUSTICE
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

Washington State
**Juvenile
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The members of the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (GJJAC), appointed by the Governor, are professionals in the juvenile justice system and knowledgeable private citizens. Members represent all sectors of the juvenile justice system and all geographical areas of the state. Member positions must reflect the requirements for state advisory group membership as per section 223(a)(3)(A) of the federal JJDP Act (reauthorized in 2002), including that a minimum of 20 percent of the membership must be youth (under the age of 24 at the time of initial appointment).

Current committee membership includes:

Ann M. Carey, Chair

Attorney
TeamChild
Seattle

Jerry Cummins

City Council Member
Walla Walla

Sergio Hernandez, Vice Chair

Superintendent
Tekoa School District
Tekoa

Ross Dawson

Deputy Assistant Secretary
Children's Administration, DSHS
Olympia

Cedric Barquet

Youth Member
Seattle

Janel Harbin

Youth Member
Tacoma

Martha Bird

Psychiatrist
Silverdale

Barbara D. Johnson

Superior Court Judge
Clark County
Vancouver

Charlotte Booth

Executive Director
Institute for Family Development
Federal Way

Harry Kramer

Director, Kittitas Services
Central Washington
Comprehensive Mental Health
Ellensburg

David Burgess Brown

Youth Member
Seattle

Lyman Legters

Director
Casey Family Programs
Seattle

Katherine Carlson

Research Consultant
Praxis Research
Port Angeles

Gary Michel

Chief of Police
Olympia

GOVERNOR'S
JUVENILE
JUSTICE
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
(continued)

Washington State
**Juvenile
Justice
Report
2004**

Janice O'Mahony
Citizen Member
Langley

Dan Robertson
Special Assistant
Juvenile Rehabilitation
Administration, DSHS
Olympia

Ramon Ruiz
Youth Member
Walla Walla

Donna Schram
Citizen Member
Mt. Vernon

Kirk Shields-Priddy
Executive Director
Washington Alliance for Youth
Lynden

Karen Smitherman
Teacher
Tacoma Public Schools
Tacoma

Jonathan Michael Steinman
Youth Member
Bellevue

David Vance
Public Health Manager
Tacoma-Pierce Co. Health Dept.
Tacoma

Ernie Veach-White
Juvenile Court Administrator
Clark County
Vancouver

Eldon Wilson
Citizen Member
Nespelem

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GJJAC Staff:

Mary E. Williams
Office Chief
Tamara McDaniel
Administrative Assistant
Sharon Ferrell
Program Coordinator
Peggy Slavick
Program Coordinator
Lisa Wolph
Program Coordinator

Address:

Office of Juvenile Justice
Dept. of Social & Health Services
4500 10th Avenue SE
PO Box 45828
Olympia, WA 98504-5828
Phone: 360-725-3600
Fax: 360-407-0152

Website:
www.juvenilejustice.dshs.wa.gov

MISSION STATEMENT

The **mission** of the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (GJJAC) is to **promote partnerships and innovations that improve outcomes for juvenile offenders and their victims, to build family and community capacity to prevent delinquency, and to provide analysis and expertise to state and local policymakers.**

STRATEGIES

The GJJAC fulfills their mission by collaborating with other public and private partners to:

- Implement the provisions of the federal JJDP Act, including Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO), Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC), jail removal, and sight and sound separation.
- Develop funding priorities and award federal JJDP funds, Byrne Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention funds and State Juvenile Violence Prevention funds to local communities, along with JDAI grant awards.
- Advocate for delinquency prevention and improvements in the juvenile justice system.
- Promote research-based preventive and rehabilitative programs.
- Work to reduce disproportionate minority contact in the juvenile justice system.
- Encourage responses to juvenile delinquency that are restorative for both youth and communities.
- Serve as an information resource for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention issues.
- Sponsor and promote public education programs on juvenile justice issues.
- Provide technical assistance and training for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention professionals.

BASIC POSITIONS

To carry out its mission, the GJJAC has adopted the following positions:

1. Implement the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act as amended.
2. Oppose efforts to criminalize "status offenders."
3. Support the preservation of a separate system of justice for juveniles; a system that is capable of responding to the needs of youthful offenders, protecting the public, and holding youth accountable.

**BASIC
POSITIONS
(continued)**

4. Support use of comprehensive statewide county detention and juvenile institutions standards which include all areas addressed by national standards and provide for independent monitoring for compliance.
5. Support effective prevention, early intervention, and treatment services to address areas of concern such as:
 - a. Child Abuse and Neglect
 - b. Substance Abuse
 - c. Families in Conflict
 - d. Juvenile Crime
 - e. Juvenile Mental Health
 - f. Teen Pregnancy
 - g. School Dropout
 - h. Runaway and Homeless Youth
 - i. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
 - j. Juvenile Sex Offenders and Their Victims
 - k. Youth Gangs
 - l. Violence
6. Support applied research on the juvenile justice system and the evaluation of juvenile justice programs to determine their effectiveness. Support the replication of effective strategies and programs.
7. Support effective education services for juveniles to address areas of concern such as:
 - a. Primary prevention curricula for child abuse, teen pregnancy, substance abuse, AIDS, and other sexually transmitted diseases.
 - b. Programs to assist juveniles to remain in school.
 - c. Programs which provide law-related education.
 - d. Programs which provide adequate education opportunities for youth incarcerated in county detention, statewide juvenile correctional facilities, and adult correctional facilities.
 - e. Programs to help offenders re-enter school.
 - f. Programs which provide school-based social and health services.
 - g. Programs which promote meaningful employment.
 - h. Programs which provide anger management and conflict resolution skills.
8. Support effective outreach for runaways and homeless youth.
9. Support the non-confinement of first-time offenders.
10. Support efforts to assure the accountability of juveniles who either accept or do not accept diversion agreements.
11. Support effective efforts to identify and protect exploited children, such as children involved in pornography, prostitution, drugs and other organized criminal activities.
12. Support legislation prohibiting corporal punishment in public schools.

**BASIC
POSITIONS
(continued)**

13. Support community-based residential programs and confinement for juvenile offenders. Programs should consider individual juvenile needs and risks to the community.
14. Support a service delivery system for children and families which is sensitive to the cultural differences in the population it serves. The service delivery system should include a minimum of:
 - a. Accessibility, including interpretive services, to existing services.
 - b. Recruitment of minority staff.
 - c. Cultural awareness training for all employees.
 - d. Programs and services that address the needs of minorities.
15. Support a comprehensive statewide program for AIDS which includes: education and outreach services to high risk youth, substance-abusing youth, and sexually active youth.
16. Support legislation prohibiting the state from executing persons who were under the age of 18 at the time of their offense.
17. Support adequate funding and coordination of delivery of services to children, youth and families.
18. Oppose mandatory transfer of juveniles to adult court without judicial review.
19. Support the primary purpose of Washington's Juvenile Justice Act which is to hold youth accountable for their offenses, and to hold the state accountable for what it does to juveniles. The presumptive and determinate sentencing model of our juvenile law should ensure that youth who commit similar offenses receive similar sentences. Sentences should be based on the seriousness of the crime, age and prior criminal behavior of the offender.
20. Support the development of community-based alternatives to incarceration. These alternatives must be consistent and uniform statewide. Our system of justice should be a continuum of punishment starting at the least restrictive end of the spectrum and reserving secure confinement for violent offenders. Other offenders should be punished in the community with such programs as: home detention, intensive supervision, day reporting centers, night reporting centers, work crews, public service projects, community service, and payment of restitution to victims.
21. Support programs that successfully return juveniles from institutional care to community settings.
22. Support a comprehensive strategy to reduce the availability of guns. Such a strategy involves prevention, intervention and rehabilitation efforts.

**BASIC
POSITIONS
(continued)**

23. Support programs that encourage and improve youth and family involvement in the completion of diversion.
24. Support programs that encourage and enhance parental involvement in all stages of the juvenile justice system and reduce barriers to parental participation. These programs may include: transportation assistance, night or regional court, child care assistance, and language assistance.
25. Support legislation that requires all changes in criminal law and agency policies to be assessed to identify any potential adverse disproportionate impact on minority youth.
26. Support the adoption of statewide prosecutorial standards.
27. Support efforts that reduce disproportionality in the juvenile justice system and ensure that equal consequences are applied and equal options are offered, regardless of race or ethnicity.
28. Support a system of graduated sanctions and a continuum of treatment alternatives that include immediate intervention, intermediate sanctions, and community-based corrections, incorporating restitution and community service when appropriate. Placement of the offenders should be based on an objective risk-based criteria.
29. Support a wide array of residential and nonresidential services that address the identifiable needs of victims, offenders, and the community.
30. Oppose lowering the age of majority from age 18.
31. Oppose lowering the age of capacity to less than 12.
32. Support efforts to develop and implement a "restorative justice model" that responds to juvenile crime through emphasizing the accountability of offenders to the people and communities that they have harmed, active involvement of crime victims and the community in the juvenile justice process, and opportunities for growth and restoration for all involved parties.

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HOW THE GJJAC
SELECTS
PROJECTS TO FUND

COVER PAGE

HOW THE GJJAC SELECTS PROJECTS TO FUND

Washington State
**Juvenile
Justice
Report
2004**

The GJJAC awards grant funds to prevent juvenile delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system from the following sources:

- Federal **JJDP Act** (Title II Formula Grants Program, Title II Challenge Activities Program, and Title V Delinquency Prevention Program);
- Federal **BJA** (specifically, the ***Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Program*** (YVPIP) through the Edward Byrne Memorial Law Enforcement Assistance Program);
- ***State Juvenile Violence Prevention Grant Program***; and
- ***Annie E. Casey Foundation*** grant funds to implement the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI).

The purpose of the grant funds is to improve the juvenile justice system by allowing carefully selected innovative projects to have stable funding while they demonstrate their effectiveness. Demonstration projects selected for funding are required to be objectively evaluated by outside, qualified evaluators. Projects that are proven to be effective are often continued by private, local government or state funding.

The GJJAC also commissions policy research studies on topics of special concern, and provides technical assistance and training to juvenile justice agencies.

The following steps provide a general outline of the **competitive process** the GJJAC follows regarding the selection of projects to receive GJJAC grant awards. The GJJAC:

1. Issues a Request for Proposals (RFP).
2. Reviews proposals for demonstration projects based on the Logic Model.
3. Selects finalists to submit full grant applications.
4. Reviews full grant applications.
5. Interviews spokespersons for proposed projects.
6. Selects applications for funding.
7. Signs a one-year contract with the applicant through the Office of Juvenile Justice, Department of Social & Health Services.

The GJJAC may renew a demonstration project contract for up to two or three additional years dependent upon the program funding source, but only if the GJJAC determines, by on-site monitoring and outside evaluation, that the project is effective.

HOW
THE GJJAC
SELECTS
PROJECTS
TO FUND
(continued)

In fiscal year 2005 (July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005), 28 demonstration projects, 20 local regional program development units, five JDAI grants, three cross-site evaluation projects, one compliance monitoring grant, one pass-through grant, and two technical assistance projects were awarded funds within one of the six funding sources administered by the GJJAC. The GJJAC awarded approximately \$1.9 million federal dollars statewide in 2004, along with approximately \$900,000 in state prevention funds, and \$211,000 in Annie E. Casey Foundation grant funds.

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PROJECTS FUNDED IN 2004

COVER PAGE

FEDERAL JJDP ACT
TITLE II FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Total Awarded: \$906,459

**Runaways/Status
Offenders
and Non-Offenders
Program Area
\$633,947**

PROJECT

**FEDERAL
AMOUNT**

**CONGRESSIONAL and
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS**

“FFT REDUCING RUNAWAYS”
Child and Family Guidance Center
6424 North 9th Street
Tacoma, WA 98406
(253) 565-4484
David Duea

\$80,000

Congressional
District: 6, 9
Legislative
District(s):
2,25,26,27,28,29,31

***“SECURE CRC REDUCTION
STRATEGIES”***
Kitsap County Juvenile Dept.
1338 SW Old Clifton Road
Port Orchard, WA 98367
(360) 337-5486
Victoria Bingham

\$70,300

Congressional
District: 1
Legislative
District(s): 23, 26,
34

***“HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL
YOUTH IN CONFLICT ”***
Olympic ESD #114
105 National Avenue North
Bremerton, WA 98312
(360) 479-6869
Kristin Schutte

\$76,743

Congressional
District: 6
Legislative
District(s): 35

***“TRANSITIONAL CASE
MANAGEMENT SERVICES”***
Pierce County Juvenile Court
5501 Sixth Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98406
(253) 798-7941
Shelly Maluo

\$72,000

Congressional
District: 9
Legislative
District(s):
2,25,26,27,28,29,31

“DARTS SECURE CRC BRIDGES”
Snohomish County Superior Court
2801 10th Street
Everett, WA 98201
(425) 388-7851
Craig Daly & Kathy Haggerty

\$175,000

Congressional
District: 2
Legislative
District(s): 39

FEDERAL JJDP ACT
TITLE II FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM
Program Total Awarded: \$906,459

Runaways/Status Offenders and Non-Offenders Program Area (continued)	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>FEDERAL AMOUNT</u>	<u>CONGRESSIONAL and LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS</u>
	<i>“WALLA WALLA FEMALE INTERVENTION TEAM”</i> Walla Walla County Department of Human Services 310 West Poplar Street Walla Walla, WA 99362 (509) 527-3219 Shelly Ray	\$80,000	Congressional District: 5 Legislative District(s): 16
	<i>“YOUTHCARE RESIDENTIAL TREC SERVICES”</i> YouthCare 2500 NE 54 th Street Seattle, WA 98105 (206) 694-4509 Laura Levings	\$79,904	Congressional District: 7 Legislative District(s): 37,43
		
American Indian Pass-Through Funding \$15,176	<i>“TRIBAL JUVENILE JUSTICE CONFERENCE”</i> Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe 1033 Old Blyn Highway Sequim, WA 98382 (360) 681-4628 Liz Mueller	\$15,176	Congressional District: Statewide Legislative District(s): Statewide
		
Compliance Monitoring \$40,000	<i>“COMPLIANCE MONITORING”</i> Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) 3060 Willamette Drive NE Lacey, WA 98516 (360) 486-2380 Jim LaMunyon	\$40,000	Congressional District: Statewide Legislative District(s): Statewide

FEDERAL JJDP ACT
TITLE II FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Total Awarded: \$906,459

Regional Program Development \$177,500	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>FEDERAL AMOUNT</u>	<u>CONGRESSIONAL and LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS</u>
	<i>REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT</i> A Chance to Change (for Pierce County) 5775 Soundview Drive NW, Ste B-104 Gig Harbor, WA 98335 (253) 853-7954 Daniel Bissonnette	\$10,000	Congressional District: 9 Legislative District(s): 2, 25- 29, 31
	<i>REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT</i> Benton/Franklin Counties Juvenile Justice Center 5606 West Canal Place, Suite 106 Kennewick, WA 99336 (509) 783-2774 Shari Gasperino	\$10,000	Congressional District: 4 Legislative District(s): 8
	<i>REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT</i> Clallam County Community Health and Safety Network PO Box 2729 Port Angeles, WA 98362 (360) 417-2282 Pete Peterson	\$7,500	Congressional District: 6 Legislative District(s): 24
	<i>REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT</i> Community Youth Services <i>(for Thurston County)</i> 711 NE State Avenue Olympia, WA 98506 (360) 943-0780, ext. 138 Charles Shelan	\$7,500	Congressional District: 3,9 Legislative District(s): 2,20,22
	<i>REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT</i> Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Council of Governments 207 4 th Avenue North, Admin. Annex Kelso, WA 98626 (360) 577-3041 Ramona R. Leber	\$7,500	Congressional District: 3 Legislative District(s): 18,19

FEDERAL JJDP ACT
TITLE II FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Total Awarded: \$906,459

Regional Program Development (continued)	PROJECT	FEDERAL AMOUNT	CONGRESSIONAL and LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS
	REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT Educational Service District 113 (for Grays Harbor County) 112 West Wishkah Street Aberdeen, WA 98520 (360) 532-2437 Lee Bucsco	\$7,500	Congressional District: 6 Legislative District(s): 2,20,22
	REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT Human Services Council (Clark Cty) 7414 NE Hazel Dell Avenue Vancouver, WA 98666-0425 (360) 694-6577 Anne Turner	\$10,000	Congressional District: 3 Legislative District(s): 17,18,49
	REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT Jefferson County Juvenile Services 1820 Jefferson Street Port Townsend, WA 98368 (360) 385-9190 Barbara Carr	\$7,500	Congressional District: 6 Legislative District(s): 24
	REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT King Cty Office of Mgmt. & Budget 516 3rd Avenue, #420 Seattle, WA 98104 (206) 205-9532 Michael Gedeon	\$15,000	Congressional Districts: 1,2,7-9 Legislative District(s): 1,5,11, 30,31,32,33,34,36, 37,39,41,43,45-48
	REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT Kitsap Cty Board of Commissioners 614 Division Street, MS: 23 Port Orchard, WA 98366 (360) 337-7185, ext. 4878 Gay Neal	\$10,000	Congressional Districts: 1 Legislative District(s): 23, 26, 34
	REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT Kittitas County 205 West 5th, Courthouse, Rm 211 Ellensburg, WA 98926 (509) 962-7516 William D. Holmes	\$7,500	Congressional District: 4 Legislative District(s): 13

FEDERAL JJDP ACT
TITLE II FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Total Awarded: \$906,459

Regional Program Development (continued)	PROJECT	FEDERAL AMOUNT	CONGRESSIONAL and LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS
	REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT		
	Lewis County Juvenile Court	\$7,500	Congressional District: 3
	360 NW North, MS: JUV01 Chehalis, WA 98532 (360) 740-2621 Ross Austin		Legislative District(s): 18,20
	REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT"	\$7,500	Congressional District: 6
	Mason Cty Drug Abuse Prevention		Legislative District(s): 35
	PO Box 1576 Shelton, WA 98584 (360) 427-1686 Julianna Miljour		
	REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT	\$10,000	Congressional District: 2
	Northwest Regional Council		Legislative District(s): 40,42
	(for Island, San Juan, Skagit and Whatcom Counties) 600 Lakeway Drive Bellingham, WA 98225 (360) 676-6749 Kathy Mohebbi		
	REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT	\$10,000	Congressional District: 5
	NE Washington Treatment Alternative:		Legislative District(s): 3,4,6,7,9
	(for Spokane County) 1224 N. Ash Spokane, WA 99201 509-477-6355 James R. Smith & Lorenzo Driggs		
	REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT	\$10,000	Congressional District: 2
	Snohomish County Human Services		Legislative District(s): 39
	2722 Colby, Suite 104 Everett, WA 98201 (425) 388-7407 Fredrick Bletson		

FEDERAL JJDP ACT
TITLE II FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Total Awarded: \$906,459

Regional Program Development (continued)	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>FEDERAL AMOUNT</u>	<u>CONGRESSIONAL and LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS</u>
	<i>REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT</i> Sunnyside's Promise <i>(for Yakima County)</i> 810 B East Custer Ave., PO Box 1087 Sunnyside, WA 98944 (509) 836-6201 Edwin Radder	\$10,000	Congressional District: 4 Legislative District(s): 14,15
	<i>"REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT</i> Walla Walla County Human Services 3015 Poplar, PO Box 1595 Walla Walla, WA 99362 (509) 527-3278 Shelly Ray	\$7,500	Congressional District: 5 Legislative District(s): 16
	<i>REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT</i> Walla Walla County Court Services <i>(for Columbia County)</i> 455 W. Rose Street Walla Walla, WA 99362 (509) 527-3275, x. 113 Michael Bates	\$7,500	Congressional District: 5 Legislative District(s): 16
	<i>REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT</i> Whitman County Juvenile Court PO Box 598, North 400 Main Colfax, WA 99111 (509) 397-6246 Chad Connors	\$7,500	Congressional District: 5 Legislative District(s): 9
Technical Assistance/ Research	<i>"MULTI-SITE EVALUATION FOR RUNAWAY YOUTH"</i> Rainier Research Associates 6447 Tralee Drive NW Olympia, WA 98502 (360) 866-3903 Ernst Stromsdorfer	\$39,836	Congressional District: Statewide Legislative District(s): Statewide
\$39,836			

FEDERAL JJDP ACT
TITLE II CHALLENGE GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Total Awarded: \$179,870

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>FEDERAL AMOUNT</u>	<u>CONGRESSIONAL and LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS</u>
<i>“MENTAL HEALTH/ DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT (V-DISC PROGRAM)”</i> Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration/DSHS PO Box 45720 Olympia, WA 98504-5720 (360) 902-7752 Rebecca Kelly	\$10,826	Congressional District: Statewide Legislative District(s): Statewide
<i>“PATHWAYS BACK PROGRAM”</i> Walla Walla County Juvenile Justice Center 455 W. Rose Street Walla Walla, WA 99362 (509) 527-3275 Michael Bates	\$83,000	Congressional District: 5 Legislative District(s): 16
<i>“MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING”</i> Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission 19010 First Avenue S. Seattle, WA 98148 (206) 835-7300 Al Isaac	\$9,444	Congressional District: Statewide Legislative District(s): Statewide
<i>“TREATMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR A POSITIVE CHANGE”</i> Yakima County Juvenile Detention 1728 Jerome Avenue Yakima, WA 98902 (509) 574-2104 Milt Ewing	\$76,600	Congressional District: 4 Legislative District(s): 14

**FEDERAL BJA
BYRNE YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION
AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM**

Program Total Awarded: \$791,881

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>FEDERAL AMOUNT</u>	<u>CONGRESSIONAL and LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS</u>
<i>“SCHOOL/JUVENILE PROBATION LIAISON PROGRAM”</i> Benton/Franklin Counties Juvenile Justice Center 5606 Canal Place, #106 Kennewick, WA 98336 (509) 783-2151 Sharon Paradis	\$73,892	Congressional District: 4 Legislative District(s): 4, 8, 15, 16
<i>“MENTORING EXPANSION PROJECT FOR COWLITZ CTY”</i> Big Brothers Big Sisters of SW Washington 205 East 11 th , Suite LL Vancouver, WA 98666 (360) 891-9392 Pam Cundy	\$60,185	Congressional District: 3 Legislative District(s): 18, 19
<i>“OLYMPIC MIDDLE SCHOOL NEIGHBORHOOD LEARNING CENTER”</i> City of Auburn 25 West Main Street Auburn, WA 98001 (253) 804-5029 Bill Mandeville	\$60,506	Congressional District: 8 Legislative District(s): 31
<i>“TOPPENISH COMMUNITY YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION”</i> City of Toppenish 21 West First Avenue Toppenish, WA 98948 (509) 865-4355 Kelly Rosenow	\$99,556	Congressional District: 4 Legislative District(s): 15

**FEDERAL BJA
BYRNE YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION
AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM**

Program Total Awarded: \$791,881

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>FEDERAL AMOUNT</u>	<u>CONGRESSIONAL and LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS</u>
<i>“RURAL YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROJECT”</i> Educational Service District 101 4202 South Regal Spokane, WA 99223-7764 (509) 458-3625 Kristin Bratcher	\$98,665	Congressional District: 5 Legislative District(s): 4,6,7,9
<i>“THE REMANN HALL WOMEN’S PROJECT”</i> Museum of Glass, International Center for Contemporary Art 1801 East Dock Street Tacoma, WA 98402 (253) 396-1768 Susan Warner	\$80,000	Congressional District: 9 Legislative District(s): 2, 25- 29, 31
<i>“KIDS FIRST”</i> North Thurston School District 305 College Street NE Lacey, WA 98516 (360) 412-4466 Maddy de Give	\$79,929	Congressional District: 9 Legislative District(s): 22
<i>“JUVENILE JUSTICE & SPECIAL EDUCATION CLINIC”</i> Seattle University School of Law 900 Broadway Seattle, WA 98122 (206) 398-4136 S. James Rosenfeld	\$80,000	Congressional District: 1 Legislative District(s): 37, 43

FEDERAL BJA
BYRNE YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION
AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Program Total Awarded: \$791,881

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>FEDERAL AMOUNT</u>	<u>CONGRESSIONAL and LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS</u>
<i>“VIOLENCE PREVENTION THROUGH RESTORATIVE JUSTICE”</i> Spokane County Juvenile Court 35 West Main Avenue Spokane, WA 99201 (509) 477-2409 Mark Lewis	\$29,648	Congressional District: 5 Legislative District(s): 3,4,6,7,9
<i>“TEAMCHILD—SNOHOMISH COUNTY”</i> TeamChild 1120 E. Terrace, #203 Seattle, WA 98122 (206) 322-2479 Anne Lee	\$80,000	Congressional District: 7 Legislative District(s): 1,10,21,32,38,39,44
<i>“BYRNE YVPIP MULTI-SITE EVALUATION”</i> TriWest Group 6549 1 st Avenue NW Seattle, WA 98117 (206) 612-8564 Peter Selby	\$49,500	Congressional District: Statewide Legislative District(s): Statewide

STATE
JUVENILE VIOLENCE PREVENTION GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Total Awarded: \$809,227

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>FEDERAL AMOUNT</u>	<u>CONGRESSIONAL and LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS</u>
<i>"CLUB MENTOR"</i> Boys & Girls Clubs of Benton/Franklin Counties PO Box 1322 Pasco, WA 99301 (509) 543-9980 Jessica Schultz	\$79,937	Congressional District: 14 Legislative District(s): 16
<i>"GRANT COUNTY LATINO YOUTH MENTOR PROGRAM"</i> Grant County Prevention and Recovery Center 1525 East Wheeler Road Moses Lake, WA 98837 (509) 766-2589 Wendy Hanover	\$50,399	Congressional District: 4 Legislative District(s): 13
<i>"PARENTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER—PACT"</i> Institute for Family Development 4620 200 th Street SW, #G Lynnwood, WA 98036 (425) 775-1447 Mary Lynn Antush	\$58,785	Congressional District: 1, 2 Legislative District(s): 1,10,21,32,38,39,40 ,42,44
<i>"PENINSULA LEARNS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM"</i> Ocean Beach School District 405 School Road/PO Box 860 Ilwaco, WA 98624 (360) 642-3739 Allan Fleck	\$26,682	Congressional District: 3 Legislative District(s): 19
<i>"RESPONSIVE ADVOCACY FOR LIFE AND LEARNING"</i> Tacoma Public Schools 708 S. G Street/PO Box 1357 Tacoma, WA 98401 (253) 571-2593 Linda Eberly	\$78,307	Congressional District: 6 Legislative District(s): 27

STATE
JUVENILE VIOLENCE PREVENTION GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Total Awarded: \$809,227

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>FEDERAL AMOUNT</u>	<u>CONGRESSIONAL and LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS</u>
<i>"RURAL THURSTON COUNTY HOME VISITATION"</i> Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Dept. 412 Lilly Road NE Olympia, WA 98506 (360) 756-5581 Diana Rice	\$80,000	Congressional District: 3, 9 Legislative District(s): 2, 20, 22, 35
<i>"SKAGIT COUNTY DELINQUENCY PREVENTION"</i> Skagit County Commissioners 700 South 2 nd Street Mount Vernon, WA 98273 (360) 336-9436 Nancy Brown	\$150,000	Congressional District: 2 Legislative District(s): 10,39,40
<i>"TEAMCHILD: A LEGAL ADVOCACY PROJECT"</i> TeamChild 1120 E. Terrace, #203 Seattle, WA 98122 (206) 322-2444, ext. 4 Anne Lee	\$150,000	Congressional District: 4,5,6,7,9 Legislative District(s): King: 15,30-34,36,37,39, 41,43,45-48; Pierce: 2,25-29,31 Yakima: 15; & Spokane: 3,4,6,7,9
<i>"GENERATION YW"</i> YWCA of Pierce County 405 Broadway Tacoma, WA 98402 (253) 272-4181 Vazaskia Caldwell	\$55,797	Congressional District: 6 Legislative District(s): 27
<i>"EVALUATION OF STATE JVP GRANTS"</i> TriWest Group 6549 1 st Avenue NW Seattle, WA 98117 (206) 612-8564 Peter Selby	\$79,320	Congressional District: Statewide Legislative District(s): Statewide

**ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION GRANT
FOR THE JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVES INITIATIVE
(JDAI)**

Program Total Awarded: \$211,670

PROJECT	FEDERAL AMOUNT	CONGRESSIONAL and LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS
"JDAI" King County Superior Court 1211 East Alder Seattle, WA 98122 (206) 205-9539 Teddi Edington	\$40,000	Congressional Districts: 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 Legislative District(s): 1,5,11, 30 – 34, 36, 37,39,41,45-48
"JDAI" Spokane County Juvenile Court PO Box 2165 Spokane, WA 99260 (509) 477-2471 Mark Lewis & Marie Studebaker	\$40,000	Congressional District: 5 Legislative District(s): 3,4,6,7,9
"JDAI" Whatcom County Juvenile Court Administration 311 Grand Avenue, #501 Bellingham, WA 98225 (360) 676-6780 David Reynolds	\$40,000	Congressional District: 2 Legislative District(s): 39, 40, 42
"JDAI" Yakima County Juvenile Court 1728 Jerome Avenue Yakima, WA 98902 (509) 574-2105 Theresa Powers	\$40,000	Congressional District: 4 Legislative District(s): 14, 15
"JDAI STATEWIDE COORDINATION" Rand Young 2910 N. Spotted Road Spokane, WA 99224 (509) 624-4924	\$51,670	Congressional District: Statewide Legislative District(s): Statewide

2004 Priorities and Programs

COVER PAGE

FEDERAL
JJDP ACT
TITLE II
FORMULA
GRANTS
PROGRAM

Runaways/Status
Offenders and
Non-Offenders
Priority Area

The Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (GJJAC) continues to hold the issue of Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) as a very high priority. Status offenders are youth who are charged with or who have committed offenses that would **not** be a crime if committed by an adult; such as runaways, truants, and curfew violators. Washington State has struggled with issues related to juvenile non-offenders and status offenders. An OJJDP Bulletin (October 2002) described the characteristics of runaways and throwaways (youth who have been thrown out by their caretakers)—many of these youth were a victim of physical or sexual abuse, were substance dependent (drug and/or alcohol problems), had been in the company of someone known to be abusing drugs, had engaged in criminal activity or spent time in a place where criminal activity was known to occur, and had previously attempted suicide.³

The At-Risk/Runaway Youth Act, also known as the "Becca Law," was enacted by the Washington State Legislature in 1995. This Act authorized the creation and use of Secure Crisis Residential Centers (S-CRCs) to hold runaway youth brought to the facility by law enforcement. Runaway youth may be held in the S-CRC for up to five days, so they can be assessed and stabilized, and reunified with parents or guardians. The intent of securely detaining the youth for this brief period is to provide for reunification of the youth with their family, along with assessment, referrals to treatment and services, and for multi-disciplinary team meetings, intended to protect and stabilize the youth, and to allow for the arrangement of appropriate placement options, as necessary.

This provision of the Becca Law is in conflict with federal law that was enacted to provide equal protections to status offenders and non-offenders—the deinstitutionalization of status offenders (DSO) requirement of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act. While an exception to this federal requirement allows status offenders to be held in a secure juvenile detention facility for a brief period of time, under juvenile court authority, in order to arrange for returning the youth to parents or guardians, to arrange for appropriate shelter care placement, or for investigative or identification purposes, the time limit is less than the 1995 state law allows—for up to 24 hours, excluding weekends and holidays—not for five days, as state law allows. As a result of being out of compliance with the DSO requirement, OJJDP has reduced the federal funding available to Washington State by 25% each federal fiscal year, beginning in 2000. The 2002 amendment of the JJDP Act allowed Washington State full funding in FFY 04. In FFY 05 Formula funding will be reduced by 20%, requiring at least 50% of the remaining funds be allocated to addressing the DSO core requirement.

³ Heather Hammer, David Finkelhor and Andrea Sedlak, *Runaway/Thrunaway Children: National Estimates and Characteristics, National Incidence Studies of Missing, Abducted, Runaway, and Thrunaway Children* (NISMAKT), October 2002, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention.

**Runaways/Status
Offenders and
Non-Offenders
Priority Area
(continued)**

The GJJAC continues to attempt to bring Washington State back into compliance with federal regulations. A local court rule was drafted in the Spring of 2004, and was reviewed by OJJDP's compliance specialist. The draft local court rule required that any youth placed in a S-CRC within a juvenile detention facility be released within 24 hours, excluding weekends and holidays, unless given a detention review hearing. Additionally, that the court was to have made every reasonable effort to conduct the hearing within 24 hours, exclusive of weekends and holidays. Also, federal guidelines were to be considered in making every reasonable effort to release the child within 24 hours after the detention review hearing, exclusive of weekends and holidays.

A draft of the rule was submitted to the Juvenile and Family Law Committee, of the Superior Court Judges Association; and forwarded to the Judge's Association Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees did not take action on the proposed court rule. The GJJAC compliance standing committee is now focusing on the protocol used by each of the four S-CRC juvenile courts. It is anticipated that the adoption of a local judicial policy, consistent with federal regulations, will reduce the number of DSO violations, as well as improve the juvenile justice system, provide due process protections for these youth, and move the state towards compliance in 2005.

The program area of "Status Offenders/Non-Offenders" has again been selected by the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (GJJAC), Washington's State Advisory Group, as a priority program area for 2005-2006 funding.

In 2003, the GJJAC allocated formula grant funds to Snohomish County, Kitsap, and Pierce Counties in order to directly address the needs of status offenders placed in the S-CRCs located within the Kitsap County and Snohomish County juvenile detention centers (the Kitsap county facility also holds placements from Pierce County). These two S-CRCs hold the majority (83%) of placements with regard to status offenders held in S-CRCs located within detention centers. The initial grant awards began April 1, 2004.

It is anticipated that the outcomes of these three targeted grant awards will not only significantly reduce the number of youth who are held in the S-CRC beyond 24 hours, after the initial 24-hour court review/hearing (reducing DSO violations), and reduce the number of youth returning to the facility, but will also include providing additional services and support for these youth and their families, and follow-up in the community. All four S-CRC facilities have implemented a court review process within 24 hours, excluding weekends and holidays.

**Runaways/Status
Offenders and
Non-Offenders
Priority Area
(continued)**

Grant activities include providing additional transitional support services and follow-up for youth in the community, which may include crisis and family counseling, chemical dependency and mental health assessment and treatment, and educational assessment and advocacy.

In addition to the S-CRC projects, four communities received continuation funding in the runaways/status offender and non-offender priority area. These four projects are located in Pierce, Walla Walla, Mason/Kitsap, and King Counties.

From 1996 to 2002 the number of At-Risk Youth (ARY) and truancy petitions filed with the court increased dramatically. The number of contempt of court findings for failure to comply with ARY, truancy, and Child in Need of Service (CHINS) orders during this same period increased by 300% from 1996 to 2002. There were almost 4,000 admissions of juveniles to detention facilities for violations of a court order/proceeding related to a status offense (contempt of court order). The vast majority (96%) of these violations were related to a Truancy or ARY order.

In 2003, there was a five (5) percent decrease in the number of ARY petitions filed, compared to 2002. Similarly, truancy petitions are also showing a decrease of eight (8) percent from 2002 to 2003. Truancy petitions have decreased a total of 23 percent from 2000 to 2003. Conversely, there was a 25 percent *increase* in contempt hearings related to an ARY, Truancy, or CHINS order from 2002 to 2003.

The GJJAC continues to encourage the development of projects that provide appropriate prevention, intervention, and treatment services for runaways, youth in conflict with their families, truants, and young people who are experiencing mental health or substance abuse problems. The GJJAC seeks to bring the state back into compliance, and to address the many needs of runaway youth, including assisting local jurisdictions in providing support and follow-up services to this population and their families.

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**Community-Based
Restorative
Responses to
Juvenile Crime and
Violence
Priority Area**

Statistics continue to show high returns to local detention facilities and state institutions by previously committed offenders. National data shows that each year there are more than 600,000 admissions to secure detention facilities, with “approximately 27,000 youth in these institutions on any given day, an increase of almost 100 percent since 1985” (Kids Count 2004 Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation). Prior confinement is the strongest predictor of future incarceration—various studies show recidivism rates of 50 to 75 percent for incarcerated youth.

Additionally, many young peoples’ antisocial behavior is increasingly criminalized and legally sanctioned. Records are kept and there are long-term and serious consequences for youthful mistakes. A 1996 Washington State Institute for Public Policy study found that from 1984 to 1995, the rate of juvenile convictions for violent felonies increased by 152 percent. The past 10 years have witnessed a greater use of transferring juveniles to the adult criminal system (decline provisions), the establishment of longer juvenile sentences, and more emphasis on punishment. In Washington State, the 1994 Violence Reduction Act automatically transferred jurisdiction of 16 and 17 year old youths from juvenile court to adult court if they were charged with certain serious violent and violent felonies. The automatic decline provisions were expanded in 1997.

While juvenile arrest statistics show a notable downward trend (the 2003 juvenile arrest rate is one of the lowest reported in our state since prior to 1982), there has been an increase in the proportion of cases referred to the prosecutor where charges have been filed, and an increase in admissions to juvenile detention centers. From 1994 to 2003, there was a 38 percent increase in admissions to detention facilities and a 27 percent increase in the proportion of cases referred to the prosecutor where charges were filed, while the number of juvenile arrests decreased by 34 percent during the same time period.

The percentage of girls entering the juvenile justice system is much higher than in the past. From 1994 to 2003, there was a 54 percent increase in the percentage of female youth held in juvenile detention facilities, and a 12 percent increase in the female percentage of total juvenile arrests. Accordingly, there was an 18 percent increase in the total percentage of juvenile female cases that were referred to the prosecutor from 1994 to 2003.

The percentage of non-white youth age 10-17 in Washington State was 24.4 percent in 2002. Juvenile offense referrals for Black and Native American youth were two times their proportion of the youth population in 2003. The percentage of non-white youth in Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration facilities has ranged from 43 to 46 percent of the total client population over the past ten years (almost two times their representation in the general population), while the percentage of non-white youth in juvenile detention centers has ranged from 29 to 38

**Community-Based
Restorative
Responses to
Juvenile Crime and
Violence
(continued)**

percent of the juvenile detention population statewide from 1994 to 2003.

Although the current juvenile justice system sympathizes with victims of juvenile crime, attempts to involve the victim in the juvenile justice process beyond the police report and the trial are too frequently sporadic or limited. In addition to the human and economic costs for juvenile crime victims, there are financial costs for the taxpayers as well. The Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, the state agency responsible for institutionalizing juvenile offenders, spends over \$60,000 each year to incarcerate each youth under their charge. At the local level, counties spend about \$119 per day to detain youth in local facilities—there were approximately 32,500 admissions to Washington’s 21 juvenile detention facilities in 2003.

This blend of both reassuring and troubling statistics indicates that while progress has been made in reducing delinquency and violence, much more needs to be done. Although it is impossible to definitively identify the reasons for the downward trend in juvenile violence and delinquency, factors cited by criminologists include community policing, public awareness and concern, victim and community involvement in the system, and an expansion of violence and delinquency prevention and intervention programs.

Studies of restorative justice programs have shown positive results. A 1994 national study (Umbreit, M.) of four victim-offender mediation programs located in different states found that all four programs had a positive impact on recidivism rates of targeted offenders (the cross-site study used a quasi-experimental design with two comparison groups). The one-year follow-up analysis revealed that offenders who participated in the mediation programs committed fewer new crimes than those who did not participate in mediation.

A 2002 Washington State cross-site evaluation of six restorative justice programs also found positive results—the evaluator (Cambie Group International, Inc.) summarized: “Cross-site evaluation study findings show that not only have restorative justice interventions had tremendous value and immediate benefit to both juvenile offenders and victims, they have appeared to impact and reduce re-offense rates for these youth.” An August 2004 evaluation (JoAnn Ray, Ph.D., principal researcher) of another Washington State restorative justice project found consistent positive outcomes—the evaluator found a decrease in the re-referral and conviction rate of youth served by the project, and reported “high satisfaction of all involved.”

The GJJAC is committed to continue to work to address the concerns of victims, garner greater public support for restorative approaches, develop resources for communities to implement community/restorative justice approaches, incorporate restorative justice principles and

**Community-Based
Restorative
Responses to
Juvenile Crime and
Violence
(continued)**

practices in sentencing and parole plans (release plans should take into account victim concerns, offenders needs and accountability, and community involvement), and to reduce the rate of juvenile offending and violence.

The Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Model supports a community's need to hold youthful offenders accountable for their actions to victims and provide meaningful consequences for offensive behavior, protect the community, enhance public safety, build offender skills and competencies, and offer opportunities for positive connections to community members. (See "Guide for Implementing the Balanced and Restorative Justice Model," December 1998, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Dept. of Justice.)

The **Community Justice Model** expands on the concept of restorative justice. It includes all sectors of the community—parents, businesses, civic organizations, the faith community and neighborhoods—as well as institutions such as law enforcement, the courts, juvenile probation, legal defense, prosecuting attorney's office, the school system and social services providers. All of these agencies and community members have a cooperative role in responding to and ultimately reducing juvenile crime. The principles of restorative justice are thus implemented in a wider community context. Activities typically defined as restorative justice are broadened.

Community Justice is more than an intervention program or practice. It is an integrated system for responding to juvenile offenders—one based on carefully balanced attention to community safety, victim restoration, offender accountability to the victim and the community, and offender rehabilitation within the community. A Community Justice Model requires comprehensive and integrated strategies that accomplish the following six tasks:

- ***Community Education and Mobilization:*** All sectors of the community are informed and knowledgeable about the causes of juvenile crime. They are involved in responding to juvenile crime at a local and personal level.
- ***Juvenile Justice System Strengthening and Reform:*** The juvenile justice system continually assesses its policies and practices to ensure consistency with the principles of Community Justice.
- ***Development of Crime Prevention Strategies:*** Crime prevention strategies change or ameliorate conditions—within the individual, the family, the schools, the community and physical environment—that give rise to juvenile crime.

Community-Based
Restorative
Responses to
Juvenile Crime and
Violence
(continued)

- **Offender Accountability:** Accountability strategies include programs that require a juvenile offender to assume full responsibility for his/her behavior and then to repair the harm done to the victim and the community. It should be noted that accountability differs from punishment. Punishment is externally imposed; accountability is a responsibility assumed by the juvenile.
- **Victim Involvement and Reparation:** Victim involvement includes formal mechanisms which enable a crime victim to participate in the juvenile justice system in a central and meaningful way. Reparation is achieved through interventions that reduce the harm suffered by the victim as a result of juvenile crime, while respecting the right of the victim to choose his/her level of participation in the process.
- **Pro-social Competencies in Juvenile Offenders:** Pro-social (i.e., positive and constructive) competencies are developed through activities and interventions that nurture changed attitudes, increased knowledge and new skills.

Successful programs with comprehensive and integrated community justice models have strong institutional and community partners that have collaboratively developed a county-wide and **systemic strategic plan of implementation**, including vision and goals, and established a partnership between the justice system and various sectors of the community, with leadership and commitment from key individuals. Programs that redefine the role of probation as “community probation” and that acknowledge probation’s multiple clients as the victim, the community, and the offender; and that provide strong community outreach and development efforts that include advocating for changes in the policies, procedures and practices of the justice system.

Currently, the GJJAC is in the process of developing a plan to further systems change in local communities for the replication of community justice initiatives in our state.

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FEDERAL JJDP ACT TITLE II CHALLENGE GRANTS PROGRAM

*In the 2002
Reauthorization of
the federal JJDP Act,
the Challenge Grants
Program was subsumed
by a new federal grant
program...*

Challenge Activities Selected in 2003

The **Challenge Grants Program** was established in 1992 Amendments to the federal JJDP Act of 1974. The Program was designed to promote systemic change at the state level through one-year seed grants to public and private agencies.

In the 2002 Reauthorization of the federal JJDP Act, the Challenge Grants Program was subsumed by a new federal grant program, the ***“Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Block Grant.”*** This new block grant program consolidates the following programs into one funding stream: State Challenge Grants; Mentoring Programs; Gang-Free Schools and Communities and Community-Based Gang Intervention; and Treatment of Juvenile Offenders Who are Victims of Child Abuse. To be eligible to receive funds under this new federal block grant program, states must also be participating in the Title II Formula Grants Program; it is anticipated that funding for this Program may be appropriated in FFY 05. The final year of Challenge Grants Program block grant allocations to the states occurred in FFY 03.

The GJJAC analyzes juvenile justice system data annually and determines the state's most critical needs for Challenge grant funding. The GJJAC has annually selected two to three of the following ten Challenge Activities (as defined in Title II, Part E), dependent upon the annual allocation:

- Basic system services (basic health, mental health and education)
- Access to counsel
- Community-based alternatives to incarceration
- Secure settings for the placement of violent juvenile offenders
- Prohibit gender bias in placement and treatment
- State ombudsman offices
- Deinstitutionalization of status offenders and non-offenders
- Alternatives to suspension and expulsion from school
- Aftercare services for juveniles involved in the system
- State agency coordination/case review systems

Challenge Activities Selected in 2003:

- **Health/Mental Health and Education Services** (to develop and adopt policies and programs to provide basic health, mental health, and appropriate education services, including special education, for youth in the juvenile justice system, with a focus on mental health needs)
- **Community-Based Alternatives to Incarceration** (to provide a model community alternative to secure confinement, with an emphasis on juvenile “holdover” programs, or other community alternatives, such as a reception center, etc.)
- **Alternatives to Suspension and Expulsion** (to develop and adopt policies and programs designed to serve as alternatives to suspension and expulsion from school)

CHALLENGE GRANTS PROGRAM (continued)

Health/Mental Health and Education Services for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

A Challenge grant was awarded by the GJJAC (\$76,600) to **Yakima County Juvenile Detention** in the health/mental health services Challenge Activity area, to provide funding for the ***Treatment Alternatives for a Positive Change*** project, beginning July 2004. The project provides multi-disciplinary services to youth in detention, with an emphasis on integrated services (mental health, medical, educational and chemical dependency providers working together in a team approach to provide services for youth with co-occurring disorders). A treatment plan for the youth is developed while they are in detention, as well as a transitional component. The project also provides gender-specific programming for girls. A final evaluation report for the project will be completed by August 2005.

Additionally, in September 2004 the **Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration/Dept. of Social & Health Services** received a \$10,826 award from the GJJAC in the health/mental health challenge activity area to implement the V-DISC program in our state (the Voice Diagnostic Interview Schedule for Children—an exemplary diagnostic tool, developed by Columbia University). The tool is designed for the assessment of mental health disorders in juveniles. The funds provided for the purchase of V-DISC software and for trainings for JRA corrections staff at three sites, and was implemented at Maple Lane School, Naselle Youth Camp, and Green Hill Training School. A two-day training in Dec. 2004 was also held that provided instruction on administration of the DISC, report interpretation, and review of current evidence-based mental health practices in the juvenile justice system.

The **Washington Criminal Justice Training Commission** also received an award from the GJJAC (\$9,444) in the health/mental health challenge activity area to provide for 250 copies of the manual, by Lisa Boesky, Ph.D., “Juvenile Offenders with Mental Health Disorders—Who are They and What Do We Do with Them,” and for the development, review and publication of a study guide for the manual. Copies were provided for each county detention center and for each state juvenile institution facility. The materials are also being used to enhance the curriculum at the three Juvenile Corrections Officers Academies administered by the Criminal Justice Training Commission.

Alternatives to Suspension and Expulsion from School

A challenge grant was awarded by the GJJAC (\$83,000) to **Walla Walla County Juvenile Justice Center** in the alternatives to suspension and expulsion Challenge Activity area, to provide funding for the ***Pathways Back Program***, a short-term, year-round, transitional educational program (beginning July 2004). The project provides student-specific educational and social skills development for suspended, expelled, and/or court-involved middle and high school youth to facilitate a successful re-entry into the mainstream educational system. The project is a coordinated partnership between the County Juvenile Justice Center, Public S.D. #140, ESD 123, and community-based organizations. A final evaluation report for the project will be completed by August 2005.

FEDERAL
JJDP ACT
TITLE V
DELINQUENCY
PREVENTION
PROGRAM

Projects funded under the OJJDP Title V Program must be research-based and designed to prevent a youth's entry into the juvenile justice system or reduce the likelihood that the youth will re-enter the system.

The **Title V Delinquency Prevention Program** (also known as the Title V Community Prevention Grants Program) was established in the 1992 reauthorization of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974. The purpose of the Title V Delinquency Prevention Program is to help communities develop a collaborative, community-based delinquency prevention planning effort in order to reduce juvenile delinquency.

Washington State received the first Title V block grant allocation in FFY 1994, with annual block grants received from OJJDP through 2002. A total of \$5.1 million in Title V funding was awarded by the GJJAC to communities throughout the state during this time period. In FFY 2003, no allocations for the Title V Grant Program were available to the states; in FFY 2004 and 2005 states were eligible to apply for an additional year of block grant funding for the Title V program, at a significantly reduced amount.

Only units of general local government or federally recognized tribes may apply for Title V Delinquency Prevention funding. Also, in order to be eligible to apply for OJJDP Title V funds, a unit of local government must be certified as in compliance with the four core requirements of the federal JJDP Act.

The OJJDP Title V Program provides communities with funding and a guiding framework for developing and implementing their comprehensive juvenile delinquency prevention plans. These three-year delinquency prevention plans are designed to reduce risk factors associated with juvenile delinquency and to decrease the incidence of problem behaviors. The Title V Program requires a community Prevention Policy Board of 15-21 members to guide the community's prevention effort, with balanced representation of public agencies and private nonprofit organizations serving juveniles, their families, and business and industry. Also, the Program requires a 50 percent cash or in-kind match.

Projects funded under the OJJDP Title V Program must be research-based and designed to prevent a youth's entry into the juvenile justice system or reduce the likelihood that the youth will re-enter the system. The federal OJJDP recognizes risk-focused prevention as a promising approach to prevent and reduce juvenile crime; this approach is supported by years of research in the delinquency prevention field. The Title V program encourages applicants to develop data-driven prevention plans, employ evidence-based prevention strategies, and conduct program evaluations to determine impact and effectiveness. A Title V Model Programs Guide and Database was developed (by Developmental Services Group for OJJDP) to assist communities in identifying delinquency prevention strategies that will fit their specific needs and enhance their individual efforts. This Model Programs Guide and Database is available at www.dsgonline.com.

**FEDERAL
JJDP ACT
TITLE V
DELINQUENCY
PREVENTION
PROGRAM
(continued)**

***B**etween 1994 and 2003, the GJJAC has awarded funds to 33 projects in the Title V Delinquency Prevention Program...*

There are different risk assessment models available. One model draws on the research of Hawkins and Catalano, and focuses attention on known “risk factors” that increase the chances of youth developing health and behavior problems, as well as “protective factors” that can insulate youth from negative influences and problems. This approach calls for minimizing risk factors (e.g., child abuse, family disintegration, academic failure, truancy, school dropout, drug and alcohol abuse, and antisocial behaviors) early on in life and enhancing the protective factors in the lives of young people. (OJJDP, Hawkins and Catalano)

Other approaches to prevent and reduce delinquency that are based on sound research and best practices include the Resiliency Model (Bernard) and the Assets Model (Search Institute) which highlight resiliency and strengths, such as caring and support by family members or role models; fostering high expectations; and opportunities to contribute to family and community to promote positive attitudes and behaviors, and protect youth from high-risk behaviors.

Between 1994 and 2003, the GJJAC has awarded funds to 33 projects in the Title V Delinquency Prevention Program (projects can receive funding for up to three years, dependent upon successful performance and availability of federal funds). Currently-funded projects provide:

- Victim-offender mediation; annual conference/training on restorative justice principles and practices; and workshops for at-risk youth and juvenile offenders focusing on conflict resolution, anger management, and communication skills.
- A series of youth-led initiatives, with schools and community partners, in assessing, developing and implementing community-specific prevention plans in two targeted neighborhoods (initiatives led by high school and middle school students, and utilizing the Search Institute Assets model).
- Gender specific prevention programs for high-risk girls.
- A culturally-based program utilizing education, training, peer support, cultural learning and recreation.
- Intervention, case management, and professional service delivery to youth experiencing school attendance problems, and a tutorial program for Latino students.
- Alternative school programs in several school districts utilizing the Nova Net educational program.
- Individualized & Tailored Care planning and facilitation for high risk youth and their families; a gender specific support group for girls; and early intervention and dropout prevention services in collaboration with local schools.
- A Family/Nurse Partnership program for high risk first-time parents, and universal screening for all births.

**FEDERAL
JJDP ACT
TITLE V
(continued)**

- An afterschool program providing academic tutoring and recreational activities for elementary school students, and a social skills development program for high risk youth identified by school administration.
- A Hero mentoring program for court-involved youth, and a parenting education program for Hispanic families involved in the juvenile justice system.

The GJJAC recognizes the need to support communities, particularly in rural areas of the state, in developing and implementing local comprehensive and coordinated approaches to delinquency prevention that utilize research-based best practices. The GJJAC has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to award FFY 04 Title V Delinquency Prevention Program funding and has submitted an application for FFY 05 program funding for 2006 grant funding awards.

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**FEDERAL
BYRNE YOUTH
VIOLENCE
PREVENTION
AND
INTERVENTION
GRANT
PROGRAM**

The U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), through the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (Public Law 100-690 enacted in 1988), allocates approximately \$10,000,000 annually to the state of Washington. In 1996, the Washington State Legislature appropriated funding for the Byrne Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Program (YVPIP) for community-oriented youth violence prevention and intervention activities. The Office of Community Development (OCD) administers Washington's Byrne Block Grant Program.

The 1999 Washington State Legislature transferred the administration of the Byrne Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Program to the GJJAC. This program area provides federal funds for community-based youth violence prevention and intervention pilot/demonstration projects, based on a public health model of reducing risks, while enhancing protective or resiliency factors.

Programs awarded Byrne YVPIP funds must be demonstration projects that are research-based and designed to prevent or intervene in youth violence. The GJJAC recognizes risk-focused prevention as a promising approach to the prevention and intervention of youth violence. Risk-focused prevention is based on the premise that in order to prevent a problem from occurring, the factors that contribute to the development of that problem must be identified and addressed. Programs funded by the Byrne YVPIP must also have community support and be community-based. Prevention strategies that reduce or eliminate risks, while enhancing protective factors through the course of a young person's development, help in reducing violence and promoting healthy social growth.

FEDERAL
BYRNE YOUTH
VIOLENCE
PREVENTION
AND
INTERVENTION
GRANT
PROGRAM
(continued)

Anger management training has consistent, statistically significant positive effects.

The goals of the Byrne YVPIP include to:

- **Prevent or reduce the onset and frequency of violent acts** in a targeted population of youth who have not yet become involved in violent behaviors; terminate all involvement in violent behavior on the part of youth who previously have been involved in violent behavior; and reduce the frequency or rate of violent behavior among youth who have already initiated violent offenses.
- **Strengthen families** and provide children and youth with the opportunities to succeed.
- **Support locally designed solutions to youth violence that are research-based;** meet the unique needs of the community; and demonstrate community involvement in their program development, implementation, and evaluation efforts.

Byrne YVPIP projects target “at-risk” youth, in accordance with communities’ prioritized risk factors that are predictive of violent behavior. Projects serve youth and families, including youth that may be involved with law enforcement and the courts. Some projects are designed to serve young children and to teach pro-social skills that are necessary to avoid violence before it becomes a problem behavior. Demonstration projects are funded for up to a maximum of four years. Approximately \$880,422 was allocated for Byrne YVPIP in 2004. Funds available for allocation to projects were reduced slightly (by one percent) from the previous year due to a reduction in federal funding for the Byrne Block Grant award to Washington State. Eleven (11) projects, including one multi-site evaluation, were awarded Byrne YVPIP funding in 2004.

In 2001-2003, the GJJAC contracted with an independent evaluator (Rainier Research Associates) to assess the effectiveness of the overall YVPIP initiative (the multi-site evaluation). The evaluation findings at the end of the fifth year of evaluation revealed the following:

- Aggressive and violent behavior decreased.
- Pro-social interpersonal relations and behavior improved.
- Pro-social schooling deportment improved.
- Overall behavior improved by 13.6 percent (this result is highly significant).
- Only anger management training has consistent, statistically significant positive effects on post-program behavior.
- Prior arrest record and/or problems with school were the most important indicators of whether a youth will become involved with the juvenile justice system within 90 days after receiving services.

FEDERAL
BYRNE YVPIP
GRANT
PROGRAM
(continued)

- A one-day reduction in pre-adjudication detention reduced the probability of re-contact with the juvenile justice system by five percent.

These findings, based on five years of data collection, are consistent with evaluation findings by independent evaluators for individual projects, which show **decreased disciplinary referrals in school and improved social skills** for youth involved in the Byrne YVPIP funded projects.

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STATE
JUVENILE
VIOLENCE
PREVENTION
GRANT
PROGRAM

In response to an increase in criminal justice costs in Washington State in the last several years, the 1999 Legislature established the Juvenile Violence Prevention Grant Program (ESSB 5180, Sec. 204). The intent of the Juvenile Violence Prevention Grant Program is to balance the spending on juvenile crime (i.e., arrests, court costs, detention and secure confinement), with an investment in juvenile violence prevention.

The Legislature appropriated 1.8 million dollars for the 1999-2001 biennium to assist communities in developing youth violence prevention and intervention strategies that are research-based and designed to prevent a youth's entry into the juvenile justice system. This same amount was appropriated for the 2001-2003 and 2003-2005 biennia.

The GJJAC was legislatively appointed as the entity to administer the Juvenile Violence Prevention Grant Program. The same legislation also provided for the appointment of a multi-disciplinary grant review team to make recommendations to the GJJAC on project funding. Programs that are designed to prevent a youth's entry into the juvenile justice system are eligible for funding. Specifically, projects should:

- Be based on sound research.
- Be for the prevention of juvenile crime, not for use as a disposition or confinement option for adjudicated or diverted juvenile offenders.
- Have community support.

In 2002, the GJJAC assembled the multi-disciplinary grant review team to set priorities to solicit new projects for State Juvenile Violence Prevention grant awards. A competitive Request for Proposals was issued in January 2003.

Projects funded in this program area are required to utilize research-based approaches. The goal of the State Juvenile Violence Prevention Grant Program is to promote delinquency prevention as the most cost-effective approach to reducing juvenile delinquency. In 2003, grants were awarded to seven new projects. In 2004, these seven projects were awarded funding for the second year. The GJJAC also funded one multi-site evaluation to examine the overall effectiveness of the State

STATE
JUVENILE
VIOLENCE
PREVENTION
GRANT
PROGRAM
(continued)

JVP Grant Program in reducing risk factors that lead to youth violence. Each project is eligible to receive up to four years of funding, based on successful performance and availability of funds.

Research during the past decade has shown that through a coordinated approach, communities can demonstrate significant improvements in pro-social behaviors for youth, such as school performance and attendance; and significant reductions in risk behaviors, such as violence, family conflict, social isolation, and poor peer relations.

Initial evaluation findings by the Tri West Group, multi-site evaluator for the State JVP Grants Program, reveal that all (new) grantees successfully implemented their programs during their first year (2003) of funding. During the first year of funding, there were some promising preliminary results, including:

- Youth involved in mentoring developed a more positive outlook on school.
- Families involved in parent and family education developed specific skills to support youth in maintaining pro-social involvement.
- Students involved in after school tutoring, homework assistance and recreational activities developed skills to better manage behaviors.
- Young women involved in gender specific services for girls experienced increases in self-esteem.

While results are promising, they are based on small sample sizes, non-experimental designs, and very limited time in program services. It is anticipated that results from the second year multi-site evaluation will reveal stronger results.

In addition, the Juvenile Violence Prevention Grant Program funds, through legislative mandate, two additional projects: *TeamChild*, and *Skagit County Delinquency Prevention*.

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**ANNIE E.
CASEY
FOUNDATION
(FOR
WASHINGTON'S
JDAI)**

***The JDAI is a
proven detention
and system reform
model of eight core
strategies that enable
Juvenile Courts to safely
remove certain youth
populations from secure
detention.***

The Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) awards grants nationally to implement their **Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)**. Washington State was selected in 2004 by the AECF to receive technical assistance and \$200,000 funding, annually for three years. These funds are to be administered by the GJJAC/Office of Juvenile Justice.

The JDAI is a **proven detention and system reform model** of eight core strategies that enable Juvenile Courts to safely remove certain youth populations from secure detention. These youth have not committed a serious crime, and are in fact youth who do not pose a risk to public safety: runaways, truants, youth without a home or available state placement, youth needing mental health services, or youth who have been detained for a minor offense.

King, Pierce, Spokane, Whatcom and Yakima County Juvenile Courts have volunteered to be JDAI replication sites. These five Juvenile Courts process 57% of all youth ages 10-17 referred to Juvenile Courts. The majority of minority youth who are referred and detained in Juvenile Courts statewide are from these five counties. The five Washington State JDAI Replication Sites have begun the process of implementing the eight (8) core JDAI strategies:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ◆ Collaboration and Leadership | ◆ Data-Driven Decision-Making |
| ◆ Detention Admission Policy | ◆ Alternatives to Detention |
| ◆ Expedited Case Processing | ◆ Special Detention Cases |
| ◆ Reduce Racial Disparities | ◆ Conditions of Confinement |

The GJJAC supports JDAI replication in Washington State because it has been proven to reduce disproportionate minority confinement/contact (DMC) and is successful in reducing the number of non-offenders and status offenders (DSO) held in secure detention.

The practice of locking up youth who are not public safety risks is expensive, has not been proven to be effective, promotes disproportionate minority confinement, and may actually lead to these youth being negatively influenced by older and criminally sophisticated youth they befriend in detention.

In each of the Washington State JDAI Replication Sites, professional and community leaders at the highest level (County Commissioners, Judges, Police Chiefs, Prosecutors, Public Defenders, and Juvenile Court Administrators) have come together to analyze the current state of their juvenile justice systems and plan reform efforts relying heavily on comprehensive outcome data.

**ANNIE E.
CASEY
FOUNDATION
(FOR
WASHINGTON'S
JDAI)
(continued)**

J *DAI sites examine racial disparities at every decision point including arrest, detention, adjudication, sentencing, state juvenile institution commitment, and transfer to adult court.*

Detention Risk Assessments are developed at each site by the collaborative leadership body to determine which youth require secure detention for public safety reasons, and which youth can be safely released to a variety of alternatives to detention or released without conditions. House arrest, day and evening reporting centers, electronic monitoring, and weekend alternative detention programs are being used effectively without an increase in pre-adjudication reoffense rates or failure to appear for court.

Through the collaborative process at work in these sites, leaders are finding methods to reduce case delays leading to swifter justice and case resolution. These changes of practice and local culture typically do not require additional funding and have led to improved outcomes for youth and the community.

JDAI sites are discovering new methods of motivating youth to comply with probation and Becca Court Orders. Where detention was once the only sanction for non-compliance, sites are now finding great success in using alternatives that promote compliance, prevent re-offenses, and maintain youth at home and in school.

JDAI sites examine racial disparities at every decision point including arrest, detention, adjudication, sentencing, state juvenile institution commitment, and transfer to adult court. JDAI teaches sites how to be intentional in ensuring each case is processed objectively and fairly, which has proven to be effective in reducing racial disparities.

For those youth requiring secure detention, JDAI has developed best practice standards for detention facilities. JDAI sites routinely conduct self inspections of their detention facilities by teams of professionals working in the facility, as well as community experts and representatives. This process promotes adherence to the highest detention practices for the safety and well being of detained youth and liability avoidance for county government.

To ensure the advancement of JDAI in Washington State, the GJJAC has initiated a contract for State JDAI Coordination. The five county replication sites meet regularly to monitor progress and assist each other in solving JDAI implementation challenges. Each site reports quarterly to carefully measure public safety, use of detention alternatives, effectiveness of detention risk assessment instruments, and monitoring disproportionate minority confinement.

The AECF provides on-going technical assistance, professional consultation, and sponsors national JDAI Conferences for juvenile courts across the country committed to JDAI detention and juvenile justice system reform.

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*MINORITY YOUTH
IN THE
JUVENILE
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SYSTEM
COVER PAGE 2000*

MINORITY YOUTH IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Washington State
**Juvenile
Justice
Report
2004**

The Issue

In 1992, the GJJAC responded to a new core requirement of the federal JJDP Act, and sought to assess the representation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system and, where disparity existed, develop policies and strategies that would address the problem. Since 1992, the GJJAC projects, along with research sponsored by the GJJAC and the other state and local entities, have examined the nature and extensiveness of disproportionality.

The projects have prompted state legislators and agency officials to implement laws and other measures designed to reduce minority overrepresentation in the state's juvenile courts. Overall, the laws and measures, along with initiatives launched by county juvenile justice officials, have yielded significant changes in how courts administer juvenile justice and in how the state has responded to the challenges faced by minority youth.

In 2004 the GJJAC completed the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Identification Spreadsheets as required by OJJDP for submittal in the state's annual juvenile justice plan for federal Title II Formula Grant funds. **The spreadsheets provide data to obtain the Relative Rate Indexes (RRI) for various racial/ethnic groups at different juvenile justice system contact points.** Identification spreadsheets were completed for statewide, Pierce County, and Yakima County. An additional identification spreadsheet is being completed for King County, which uses a different data collection system from the rest of the state. These three counties currently have DMC reduction activities ongoing.

The DMC Identification Spreadsheets have proven helpful in determining areas of weakness in data collection. Census information is provided in different racial category breakdowns than the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system or juvenile court information. The categories of Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders and Other/Mixed are not available through UCR or juvenile court data.

The Relative Rate Index (RRI) information will be reviewed as we continue to gather the data. This data, along with information from evaluators working in the three counties (King, Pierce and Yakima), will be used to monitor DMC changes over time.

Data Analysis

Based on 2002 data from the National Center for Health Statistics' U.S. Census Populations with Bridge Race Categories data files, Washington State's juvenile racial composition was 73 percent White and 27 percent minority youth (6 percent Black, 2 percent American Indian, 7 percent Asian, and 12 percent Hispanic of any race).

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(continued)

Research data collected by the GJJAC examined race and ethnicity as factors influencing decisions at various points within the juvenile justice system. In 2002, minorities accounted for 27 percent of the juvenile population, 15 percent of all juvenile arrests,⁴ 28 percent of all juvenile court offense referrals, 30 percent of juveniles held in county detention facilities, and 43 percent of the JRA client population.

Studies conducted in Washington State have confirmed that minority youth are disproportionately represented in the later stages of the juvenile justice system. The differences between minority and non-minority juveniles' representation becomes amplified at each decision point. Over-representation increases for minorities at the county detention facility stage, and almost doubles at the commitment to state JRA facilities stage. In 2003, minority youth represented 45 percent of the JRA population and 33 percent of the youth held in local juvenile detention centers (both percentages have increased from 2002).

The Response

Studies conducted in Washington State found the following:

- Youth securely detained *prior* to adjudication are more likely to be subsequently incarcerated. Pre-adjudication detention is one of the best predictors of subsequent secure confinement.
- Race differences accumulate in case outcomes across all stages of the juvenile justice process.
- Laws and policies that increase juvenile justice professionals' discretionary authority over youth – without objective assessments – may exacerbate disparity. (Prosecutorial standards were adopted by the legislature in 1995.)
- Perceptions of youths' problems affect the likelihood of detention. A 1998 study, conducted by Dr. George Bridges, University of Washington, found that juvenile court officials' subjective assessments of youth shaped case outcomes. Probation officers assessed minority and White youth using different causal factors—internal versus exterior. For example, if minority youth are perceived as more responsible for their criminal acts, and not seen as influenced by external factors (poverty, family dysfunction, substance abuse, etc.), they are more likely to receive harsher sentences. To address this problem, juvenile justice staff training must ensure that prejudicial beliefs about minority youth do not influence sentencing recommendations. Washington's juvenile courts have developed and implemented a statewide Risk Assessment Instrument that may impact the role that such perceptions have on sentencing decisions.
- A 1999 study conducted by Dr. Bridges determined that between one-fourth and one-half of racial disparity is due to racial differences in crime and arrest.
- Minority youth are diverted from criminal prosecution at lower rates than White youth. The Work Group established by the legislature found that minority youth were less likely to appear at diversion

⁴ Juvenile arrest data does not provide a separate race/ethnicity category for youth of Hispanic origin—persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

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(continued)

hearings, less likely to comply with diversion requirements, and less likely to be diverted for subsequent offenses than similarly situated White youth.

As the GJJAC continues to assess DMC, with the help of the RRI and the individual county evaluations, the GJJAC will consider further assessment studies as necessary and may request OJJDP Technical Assistance.

Specific Activities and Programs Undertaken in Washington State:

Legislation:

- *E3SHB 3900 (1997)*—Developed and implemented a statewide Risk Assessment instrument (standardized assessment and diagnostic procedures which may impact DMC)—through the Washington State Institute for Public Policy.
- *HB 2392 (1996)*—Established experimental program implementing prosecutor guidelines to reduce racial inequality in the prosecution of juveniles in two counties.
- *HB 2319 (1994)*—Mandated annual reporting requirements on minority representation by state agencies supervising youth convicted of crimes. Established local juvenile justice advisory committees to monitor and report annually on proportionality, effectiveness and cultural relevance of local and state rehabilitative services for juveniles and to review and report on citizen complaints regarding bias or disproportionality within local juvenile justice systems. The reports are submitted to the Sentencing Guidelines Commission (SGC). The SGC reports biennially to the legislature.
- *ESHB 1966 (1993)*—Counties using state funds are required to address minority over-representation in detention and other juvenile facilities; establish work groups to develop standards for prosecution of juvenile offenders, review disproportionality in diversion, and review the use of detention in an effort to reduce disproportionality. (Prosecutorial Standards adopted in 1995.)

State and county programs to address disproportionality:

- Cultural diversity training
- Improved dissemination of information about court procedures (informational materials in English and other languages on juvenile laws and juvenile court processes, and interpreters to enable non-English speaking youth and families to participate in juvenile court proceedings.)
- Alternatives to detention including day treatment, home monitoring, electronic monitoring, alternative dispositions, assessment centers
- Increased staff diversity through new hiring plans
- Research and ongoing evaluation and assessments of disproportionality
- Standardized risk assessment tools and diagnostic procedures
- Adoption of prosecutor guidelines

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(continued)

- Recruitment of more minority volunteers on Conference Committees and Community Accountability Boards
- Reduction in barriers to parent participation in diversion and court processes – night court, transportation, child care
- Improved data collection system and monitoring
- Advocacy on behalf of minority youth to ensure that youth are not unnecessarily detained pre-adjudication, etc.
- Technical assistance to local communities to further analyze data on racial disproportionality and develop a plan to reduce disproportionality
- Improved methods to locate youth referred for diversion
- More diverse community service sites to increase youth compliance with diversion requirements
- Institution of re-diversion programs

The GJJAC recognizes the need to reduce the over-representation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system, and has allocated over half a million dollars from 1997-2000 to address this issue.

The GJJAC provided funding to 20 Regional Program Development Units (RPDs) in 2004. RPDs are required to address the issue of racial disproportionality in their county or region. The RPDs coordinate and collaborate efforts to reduce disproportionality, which may include: prevention services, plans for intervention services, development of community-based alternatives to secure detention and confinement, after-care services, implementation of “best practice,” and staff training.

The GJJAC also continues to fund projects that include efforts to address and reduce disproportionality, such as the Equal Justice project, a Byrne grant-funded project in Spokane. Other projects include: Skagit County Challenge Grant – Screening and Treatment of Detainees, Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe -The C.E.D.A.R. Project, Needs Assessment Survey for Native American Youth, and TeamChild.

2003 GJJAC Funding for Counties and Washington’s JDAI

In April 2003, the GJJAC addressed the issue of minority youth in the juvenile justice system through a conference, co-sponsored by 15 state agencies and associations, entitled “Promising Practices for Reducing Disproportionate Minority Confinement.” The conference featured the two most promising models in the country today:

- **Multnomah Model** (funded and evaluated by the Annie E. Casey Foundation) operating in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon.
- **Haywood Burns Institute Model** (also known as the “Building Blocks” model in Seattle) operating in Seattle, King County, and nine other cities and counties in the country.

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Both models are based on a data-driven, county juvenile justice team approach that looks at decision points in the juvenile justice system.

The GJJAC released a Request for Proposals (RFP) at the conference that offered federal funding to counties that are willing to replicate one of the promising models. Three awards were made to King County, Yakima County and Skagit County to begin implementing a model in their own county. The projects were funded for July 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003.

The GJJAC submitted an application to the Annie E. Casey Foundation to be a replication site for JDAI. The application included site replication in four counties: King, Yakima, Spokane, and Whatcom. These counties, together with Pierce County which receives AECF JDAI funding directly, represent over one-half of the juvenile population in Washington. Washington State's AECF application was approved in the Spring of 2004. The \$200,000 annual grant was awarded and began on July 1, 2004.

A statewide JDAI steering committee was organized by the GJJAC that includes representatives from the five county teams, Superior Court Judges Association, Juvenile Court Administrators Association, Sentencing Guidelines Commission, Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, Washington Defender Association, Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, Children's Administration, Juvenile Justice Committee (House of Representatives), and the GJJAC.

In Washington, JDAI will not only advance our state's goal of reducing disproportionate minority contact, but can provide a template to eliminate the inappropriate or unnecessary use of secure detention, particularly for status offenders. Youth who do not pose a threat to community safety are referred to other community resources, outside of a detention facility, while their charge is processed.

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GIRLS IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

In 2003, girls accounted for 28.7 percent of total juvenile arrests in Washington State. This is the first year since 1997 that the percent of total arrests represented by girls did not increase. In 2002, girls represented 28.9 percent of the total juvenile arrests. The number of girls arrested in 2003 increased by 14 arrests over 2002, whereas the number of boys arrested increased by 278 arrests. While the total number of arrests committed by girls has decreased from 1994 to 2003, girls have been responsible for a larger percent of the total juvenile arrests.

Washington's juvenile arrest rate overall has decreased during the past five years, from 72.4 per 1,000 in 1999 to 54 per 1,000 in 2003. In fact, the juvenile arrest rate remains at a 20 year low. This low is attributed, for the most part, to substantial decreases in the number of juvenile males arrested. The total number of males arrested in 1999 was 36,143, whereas the total number of males arrested in 2003 was 27,358. The number of males arrested in 2003 increased by 278 arrests over 2002, when 27,080 males were arrested. While the number of males arrested has decreased substantially in recent years, the number of juvenile females arrested has not decreased significantly. In all arrest categories (including violent offences, property offenses, drug and alcohol offences, and other offenses) girls continue to represent a higher percentage of the total juvenile arrests.

The percentage of girls in Washington's juvenile detention facilities increased steadily during the past ten years (1994-2003). In 1994 girls accounted for 18.6 percent of the detention population, whereas in 2003 girls accounted for 28.6 percent of the total youth held in detention. While the number of youth held in detention facilities over the past six years has declined slightly or remained stable, girls continue to represent an increasingly larger percentage of the total youth detained.

The increase in the arrest and detention rates for girls poses challenges for a juvenile justice system designed to meet the needs of boys. Boys continue to commit the overwhelming number of offenses and their offenses tend to be more violent and dangerous. While boys in trouble tend to strike out, girls, on the other hand, tend to get into trouble more quietly (OJJDP, 1998). When girls are angry, frightened, abused, neglected or unloved they may hurt themselves by abusing drugs, prostituting their bodies, starving, or even mutilating themselves (Belknap, 1996). Because girls in crisis are more likely to threaten their own well being, they have not been perceived as a danger to society. Until recently, the needs of girls have been largely ignored and overlooked by the juvenile justice system.

Many of the girls who come in contact with the juvenile justice system in the state of Washington do so for status offenses (acts, which would not be an offense if committed by an adult; i.e., running away or truancy). In 2003, approximately one-half (49 percent) of the youth admitted to detention centers in violation of a court order related to a status offense were females. Girls also represented more than two-thirds (69%) of the CHINS filings; over one-half (55%) of the ARY filings; and almost one-half (47%) of the Truancy filings in 2003.

**GIRLS IN THE
JUVENILE
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(continued)**

The At-Risk/Runaway Youth Act, enacted by the Washington State Legislature in 1995, authorizes the creation and use of secure crisis residential centers (S-CRCs) to hold runaway youth brought to the facility by law enforcement. Runaway youth are held in the S-CRCs for at least 24 hours, and up to five days while his/her problems are assessed. In 1998 there was one S-CRC operating in Washington, with 336 placements. In 2003, there are 66 S-CRC beds and approximately 3,200 placements. Over 60 percent of the youth held in S-CRCs were females. This percentage has remained constant since 1997.

Data from research findings and from national surveys point to the need for establishing gender-specific programming and “best practices” for meeting the needs of girls in the juvenile justice system. Gender-specific programs offer a way to tailor programming strategies for girls, both within the juvenile justice system and in community settings. Such programs foster positive identity development, and recognize the risk factors most likely to impact gender groups, and the protective factors that can build resiliency.

Gender equity in juvenile justice programming is an important focus of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. The 1992 reauthorization of the Act required states to examine how to deal with girls and to make changes in the overall programming for girls.

The GJJAC recognizes the importance of addressing the needs of girls in the juvenile justice system. In 1996 the GJJAC funded a study on Girls in the Juvenile Justice System. This study highlighted the lack of programs in local courts across the state and at the state level that specifically address the needs of girls. Initiatives taken by the GJJAC from 1995–2003 include funding projects that developed and implemented comprehensive programs to address the needs of girls. Three projects stressed effective alternatives to secure confinement and court involvement for runaway girls and girls in conflict with their families. Other initiatives include: providing gender-specific services and aftercare to girls in detention, staff and service provider training in dealing with gender bias issues, designing a human development curriculum geared to juveniles incarcerated in state run facilities, and providing health and mental health services for girls in local and state correctional facilities.

In 2000, the GJJAC, in cooperation with concerned service providers and juvenile justice professionals, developed a survey to assess the availability of gender-specific programs for at-risk girls and offenders in the state. The Regional Development Units (RPDs) located in counties throughout the state conducted the survey at the community level to identify the needs of girls, identify exemplary and effective programs, and identify gaps in service availability. Results of the survey revealed that gender-specific services for at-risk and offending girls are not readily available, and further, that few detention facilities in the state provide gender-specific programming for detained girls. As a result, the GJJAC offered a workshop addressing gender-specific programming. Three national leaders in gender-specific programming addressed an audience of over 150 juvenile court staff, service providers and concerned citizens.

**GIRLS IN THE
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(continued)**

In addition to the workshop, the GJJAC identified gender-specific programming as a priority activity for Challenge Grant and Title V funding. Between 2001 and 2004, the GJJAC has awarded funding to seven community-based programs to provide gender specific services for girls. In addition, in 2003 the GJJAC collaborated with one of the Regional Program Development Units (RPD) to offer an in depth training on providing gender specific services for girls, for juvenile justice professionals and community based service providers.

The GJJAC recognizes the need to continue to respond to the needs of girls and will continue its work with policymakers and practitioners to provide technical assistance, training, and support for programs that assist girls in developing life skills and preventing future delinquency.

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Summary of the State's
Juvenile Justice Code

SUMMARY OF THE
STATE'S JUVENILE
CODE

COVER PAGE

SUMMARY OF THE STATE'S JUVENILE JUSTICE CODE

JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Washington State enacted its first juvenile code in 1913. The code remained in effect without major changes until 1977. In 1967, the United States Supreme Court forced many states, including Washington, to revise their juvenile laws. The Court held that juveniles, between the ages of eight and 18, were entitled to most of the same constitutional rights as adults, except trial by jury.

In 1977, the Washington State Legislature totally revised the state's juvenile code. This code, modeled after the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, went into effect on July 1, 1978. The legislature has made revisions to the code each year since its enactment.

In 1997, the Washington State Legislature revised the state's juvenile code with the passage of E3SHB 3900. The Revised Code of Washington divides juvenile law into three main areas: juvenile offenders, the family reconciliation act, and dependency/termination of parental rights. Other sections of the code deal with juvenile records and the relationship between states in juvenile matters.

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The Juvenile Justice Act of 1977, and its revisions, governs the management of all juvenile offenders. The Act places emphasis on protecting society and on holding juveniles accountable for their offenses. Parents are encouraged and required to participate in juvenile offender proceedings against their child.

Under the Juvenile Justice Act, youth between the ages of eight and eighteen can be charged with the same crimes as adults. The County Prosecuting Attorney's Office is responsible for prosecuting juvenile cases. The prosecutor decides whether to divert a case, whether charges should be filed, and which crimes should be charged. Juveniles who commit traffic, fish, game, or boat violations are treated as though they were adults and handled by District or Municipal Courts.

The juvenile courts, which are part of the Superior Court system, handle all charges against juveniles outside of what is handled by District or Municipal Court. Juveniles who are sentenced to confinement serve time in either a local juvenile detention facility and/or a state juvenile facility, instead of an adult jail.

Juveniles who have committed minor crimes, such as shoplifting, and do not have a record of serious offenses, may be offered diversion instead of being taken to court. Juveniles who are diverted meet with citizen volunteers or a court representative who decides the appropriate diversion agreement.

A diversion agreement may be restitution (repayment to the victim), counseling, informational or educational sessions, a fine of up to \$100, and/or community service hours. The juvenile signs the agreement, and if it is completed, no conviction appears on the juvenile's record. If the agreement is broken, the juvenile is referred to the court. Juveniles who commit more serious offenses, and those who fail to keep their diversion agreements, are charged in Juvenile Court.

**JUVENILE
OFFENDERS
(continued)**

A juvenile who commits a very serious crime, such as aggravated murder, may be treated as an adult for that crime and for any future crimes committed. A juvenile court must make the determination that handling the juvenile as an adult is the appropriate course of action for the accused offender. Although in general juveniles may not be housed with adult offenders, juveniles *remanded* to adult court may serve their jail or prison terms in adult facilities.

The Violence Reduction Act, passed in 1994, transferred jurisdiction of 16- and 17-year-old youth charged with certain violent felonies to the Superior Court, to be tried as adults.

Legislation enacted in 1997 increased the range of offenses warranting transfer to adult court and placement in adult facilities for juveniles over the age of 16. The offenses include: robbery 1, rape of a child 1, drive-by shooting, burglary 1 if the offender has a prior adjudication, and any violent offense if the offender was armed with a firearm.

When a juvenile pleads not guilty, the court holds a fact-finding hearing (a juvenile trial) to determine guilt or innocence. Unlike adults, juveniles do not have the right to a jury trial, but are tried by a judge. A finding of guilty requires a hearing for sentencing.

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Sentencing of Offenders

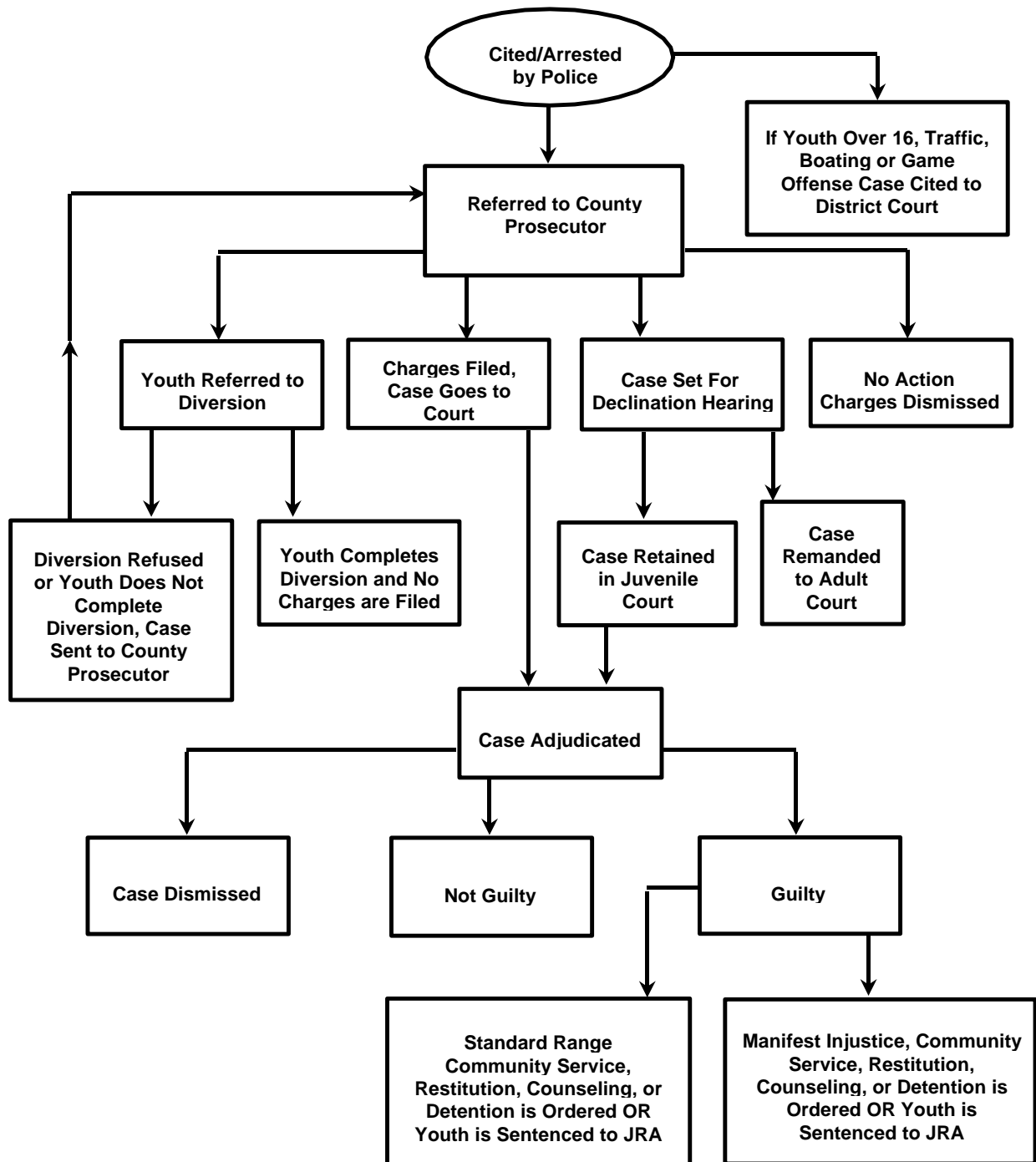
In imposing a sentence, the court follows a sentencing grid based on the current offense and prior adjudications.

The "standard range" sentence which a judge may impose may include time in a local detention facility designed for short-term residential confinement, a fine, restitution, community service and/or community supervision (probation). For serious or repeat offenders, the judge may commit a youth to the care of the Department of Social and Health Services' Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA). JRA provides long-term confinement and individual treatment services to youth within a continuum of maximum, medium, and minimum security residential care facilities followed by a period of parole aftercare.

In imposing a sentence, a judge may use the standard range unless he or she declares a "manifest injustice." In declaring a "manifest injustice," the judge is saying that the standard sentence is either too harsh for the offender or too lenient to protect the community. The seriousness of a juvenile's prior adjudications may be considered by the court for the purposes of imposing a disposition outside the standard range. In these instances, the judge must put his or her reasons for the determination in writing.

Certain offenders are eligible for a Chemical Dependency Disposition Alternative (CDDA). The court may require the offender to attend available outpatient or in-patient treatment.

Juvenile Justice System Flow Chart for Criminal Offenses



Summary of the State's
Juvenile Justice Code

Sentencing of Offenders (continued)	<p>Certain offenders are eligible for a Special Sex Offender Disposition Alternative (SSODA). SSODA is for juvenile offenders adjudicated for a first-time sex offense other than Rape in the 1st Degree, and requires the offender to participate in treatment with a state-certified therapist and remain on community supervision for at least 24 months; other conditions may also be imposed, including up to 30 days of confinement.</p> <p>New disposition options that were implemented in July 2003 that certain offenders may be eligible for include the Mental Health Disposition Option (similar to CDDA and SSODA, except for juveniles with mental health-related issues) and Option B, a suspended commitment option for youth who are not eligible for CDDA, SSODA, or MHDA.</p> <p>.....</p>
DETENTION FACILITIES	<p>Washington has 20 county-operated detention centers, which are maintained by the juvenile courts, and one regional center, maintained by a consortium of counties (13 of the detention centers are in western Washington, and eight are in eastern Washington). Juveniles from all 39 counties are held in these 21 facilities. Juveniles are held in local detention facilities either to await court hearings or as sentenced juveniles.</p> <p>.....</p>
JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS	<p>The Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA), Department of Social and Health Services, provides rehabilitative services to juvenile offenders adjudicated for crimes throughout the state.</p> <p>JRA operates the following five secure residential facilities: Three maximum-security institutions (Green Hill School, Maple Lane School, and Echo Glen Children's Center); one medium security forestry camp (Naselle Youth Camp); and one Basic Training Camp ("Camp Outlook"), which is operated through a contract with Second Chance, a private non-profit corporation. Both Echo Glen Children's Center and Naselle Youth Camp provide services for female offenders.</p> <p>JRA also operates seven state-run community facilities with 83 minimum-security beds and contracts for 51 community facility beds with five private providers. Additionally, JRA operates a community-based residential program in the Spokane area referred to as the Residential Treatment and Care Program (RTCP). This program replicates the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention blueprint Multi-dimensional Treatment Foster Care program. Up to 10 low-risk RTCP youths are served in specially trained and supported foster parent homes as an alternative to institutional placement.</p> <p>Juveniles released from JRA residential programs may be supervised in the community for up to 6 months; most sex offenders are supervised for 24 to 36 months.</p>

Summary of the State's
Juvenile Justice Code

DETENTION
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**JUVENILE
CORRECTIONAL
INSTITUTIONS
(continued)**

JRA provides specialized drug and alcohol treatment services to chemically addicted juvenile offenders (in 2005, JRA reports that 81 percent of the youth in residential care are chemically dependent). JRA currently operates three separate intensive inpatient chemical dependency programs, two intensive outpatient programs and one recovery house and long-term care chemical dependency program. Other institutional and community programs include: drug and alcohol assessment, intervention, education, and aftercare.

Sex offenders are provided assessments, treatment, and resources through the JRA system. Currently, JRA reports that approximately one-third (30%) of youth in residential care have sexual misconduct issues.

Offenders with mental health disorders are given assessments, appropriate medication management and treatment services. In 2005, it was reported that 64 percent of the youth currently in residential care have significant mental health issues. This is JRA's most steadily growing population, and has risen from 40 percent of the residential population in 2000, to the current level of more than 60 percent in 2005.

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**CONSOLIDATED JUVENILE
SERVICES
(CJS)**

The Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration manages the **Consolidated Juvenile Services (CJS) program**. CJS was initiated in 1981 to assist counties in developing programs based on local priorities. Counties applying for CJS funds must include efforts to address disproportionality in their plans. CJS provides funding to counties for a wide range of programs. These programs include: Diversion, diagnosis, probation supervision, individual counseling, drug/alcohol assessment and treatment, alternative education, vocational training, sex offender treatment, psychiatric and psychological services, recreation, detention, work release, intensive supervision, and other specialized services. County juvenile courts participating in CJS are mandated to utilize a client risk assessment tool to determine the most appropriate program assignment for probation youth. All of the state's 39 counties have CJS At-Risk programs (within 33 juvenile court jurisdictions).

Over the years, the CJS Program has been expanded to include CJAA (*Community Juvenile Accountability Act*), CDDA (*Chemical Dependency Disposition Alternative*), and SSODA (*Special Sex Offender Disposition Alternative*). These programs are folded together into a consolidated contract to give the courts flexibility to more effectively coordinate services at the local level.

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**COMMUNITY JUVENILE
ACCOUNTABILITY ACT
(CJAA)**

The **Community Juvenile Accountability Act (CJAA)** was enacted as part of juvenile justice reform legislation (E3SHB 3900) in 1997. Juvenile courts began implementing CJAA interventions in January 1999. CJAA provides a grant program to enable local courts to develop and administer community-based accountability and intervention programs shown by research to be effective in reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders. The CJAA program is managed by JRA. Programs target youth on county probation who are moderate to high risk for re-offending. Research-based programs include: Functional Family Therapy (FFT), Aggression Replacement Training (ART), and Multisystemic Therapy (MST).

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**JUVENILE
ACCOUNTABILITY BLOCK
GRANT (JABG) PROGRAM**

JRA also administers the federal **Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program** that provides funding for state, county, city and tribal juvenile justice projects. Examples of projects funded include: intensive county probation services, day reporting programs, drug court programs, additional juvenile prosecutors, and enhancement to county CJAA interventions.

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**INTERSTATE COMPACT
ON JUVENILES**

JRA additionally administers the **Interstate Compact on Juveniles** (RCW 13.24), which provides for the cooperative supervision of youth on probation and parole as they move between states. The program also provides for the return of out-of-state escapees and non-adjudicated runaways.

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**FAMILY
RECONCILIATION
ACT**

The Family Reconciliation Act (formerly Procedures for Families in Conflict) was enacted in 1978, as a result of the national trend towards the decriminalization of status offenders (RCW 13.32A). The legislative intent of the law recognized “that the family unit is the fundamental resource of American life which should be nurtured, and that it should remain intact in the absence of compelling evidence to the contrary.”

Laws dealing with runaways, families in conflict, and abused or neglected children attempt first to reunite the family while protecting the child. Juveniles whose offenses would not be crimes if committed by an adult (status offenses such as running away and truancy) are treated differently from juveniles who commit crimes.

The At-Risk/Runaway Youth Act, which became effective in July 1995 and is known as the “Becca Law,” governs issues related to status offenders/non-offenders (runaways, at-risk youth, truants, and children in need of mental health and substance abuse treatment). Law enforcement officers can pick up a reported runaway or child whom the officer believes is in circumstances that cause a danger to the child’s safety.

Current law allows law enforcement to take a runaway into custody and take the child to his/her parents’ home or place of employment. The parent may also request the officer to take the child to the home of a responsible adult, relative, or a licensed youth shelter. If the parent cannot be located, the officer must take the child to a Secure Crisis Residential Center (S-CRC), or to a semi-secure facility if a S-CRC is full, not available, or not located within a reasonable distance.

There are currently nine S-CRCs statewide with a total of 66 beds. Five of the facilities are private facilities:

- EPIC Youth Services in Yakima (five beds)
- EPIC Youth Services in Kennewick (six beds)
- Daybreak in Spokane (five beds)
- Oak Grove (Janus Youth Programs) in Vancouver (six beds)
- Spruce Street Inn (Pioneer Human Services) in Seattle (18 beds)

Four of the facilities are located within separate secure sections of juvenile detention facilities:

- Chelan County Juvenile Detention (four beds)
- Clallam County Juvenile Detention (four beds)
- Kitsap County Juvenile Detention (nine beds)
- Snohomish County Juvenile Detention (nine beds)

The youth is to be held in a S-CRC for at least 24 hours, but not more than five days, while his/her problems are assessed. A youth may be transferred to a semi-secure CRC after the initial 24 hours--“the

**FAMILY
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(continued)**

aggregate length of time spent in all such centers or facilities may not exceed five consecutive days per admission,” RCW 13.32A.130(1).

The Act was amended, in 2000, to expand the population of children eligible for admission to some S-CRCs. The law now permits juvenile courts to order detention of a child, for contempt of court pursuant to a status offense proceeding, to either a detention facility or a S-CRC which is located in a separate section of a detention facility. No more than 50 percent of the S-CRC population can be comprised of youth held for contempt of court.

Multi-disciplinary teams may be established to work with families and achieve reconciliation. If such services fail to resolve the conflict, a **Child in Need of Services (CHINS)** court process may be initiated by DSHS, the parent(s) or the child. A family assessment must be completed before a CHINS petition is filed.

If the court approves a CHINS petition, the disposition may include an out-of-home placement and may require the child to: attend school, counseling, chemical dependency or mental health outpatient treatment; report to DSHS or other agency; and comply with supervision conditions including employment, anger management, or refraining from alcohol or drugs. The child and DSHS must meet a higher burden of proof than parents, to obtain an out-of-home placement order. If the court grants an out-of-home placement as part of the CHINS petition, it will hold periodic reviews to find out if the child is able to return home.

Parents of at-risk youth may request and receive assistance from the court and the state in providing appropriate care, treatment and supervision for their children. Parents of at-risk youth, as defined in statute, can file an **At-Risk Youth (ARY)** petition to keep the youth at home. The court can order the youth to remain at home and meet certain conditions. The court can also order both the parent and child to participate in counseling services.

Other sections of the “Becca Law” govern issues relating to truancy and absenteeism in the schools. Specifically, school districts are required to file **Truancy petitions** with the juvenile court not later than the seventh unexcused absence by a student within a month, or not later than the 10th unexcused absence during a school year. An unexcused absence means (RCW 28A.225.020(2)) that a student has failed to attend the majority of hours or periods in an average school day or has failed to comply with a more restrictive school district policy, and has failed to meet the school district’s policy for excused absences.

A youth who fails to comply with the terms of a court order (**contempt of court finding**) under the Family Reconciliation Act can be sentenced to a juvenile detention facility for up to seven days and fined up to \$100.

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**DEPENDENCY/
TERMINATION OF
PARENTAL RIGHTS**

A child who is considered to be legally "dependent" is a child under the age of 18 who has been found by the court to be abused, abandoned, neglected, at risk of serious harm, or who is developmentally disabled when DSHS and the parents agree that placement is necessary. The court assumes responsibility for the child's welfare. The child may remain at home with DSHS providing supervision and services to the family. If the court feels that the child would be in danger at home, the court may place the child in foster care or with relatives. When a child is placed out of the home, the law requires DSHS to provide all reasonable services available within the community in an attempt to reunite the family, though the welfare of the child is of primary consideration. The court reviews dependency cases at least every six months.

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**COURT ROLE IN
TERMINATION OF
PARENTAL RIGHTS**

The court can terminate the parent-child relationship under the following circumstances:

- If the parent abandoned the child and can't be found.
- If termination is in the child's best interests.
- If the child has been declared dependent.
- If all reasonably available services capable of correcting the parent's deficiencies have proved unsuccessful.
- If there is little chance that the situation will soon improve enough for the child to return home.
- If continuation of the relationship clearly reduces the child's chance for a stable and permanent home.

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